

On Top Of The News Email:news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Tuesday, May 21, 2013



Ravaged

At least 51 dead as massive tornado roars through US suburb

TIM TALLEY

Associated Press

MOORE, Oklahoma (AP)

— A monstrous tornado as much as a mile (1.6 kilometers) wide roared through the Oklahoma City suburbs, killing at least 51, flattening entire neighborhoods with winds up to 200 mph (320 kilometers) and landing a direct blow on at least one school.

An Oklahoma Medical Examiner's Office spokeswoman said the death toll was expected to rise. Of-

ficials at two hospitals said they're treating nearly 60 patients, including more than a dozen children. At least 10 people were in critical condition.

The storm of rare ferocity — less than 1 percent of all tornadoes reach such wind speed — ripped through scores of buildings in Moore, south of the city. Block after block of the community lay in ruins. Cars and trucks were left crumpled.

The National Weather Ser-

vice issued an initial finding that the tornado was an EF-4 on the enhanced Fujita scale, the second most powerful type of twister known.

In video of the storm, the dark funnel cloud could be seen moving slowly across the landscape, scattering shards of wood, pieces of insulation, shingles and glass over the streets.

At Plaza Towers Elementary School, the storm tore off the roof, knocked down walls and turned the play-

ground into a mass of twisted plastic and metal.

Several children were pulled alive from the rubble. Rescue workers passed the survivors down a human chain to a triage center in the parking lot.

James Rushing, who lives across the street from the school, heard reports of the approaching tornado and ran to the school, where his 5-year-old foster son, Aiden, attends classes. Rushing believed he would be safer there.

"About two minutes after I got there, the school started coming apart," he said. The students were placed in the restroom.

Downed power lines and open gas lines posed a risk in the aftermath of the storm, Police Capt. Dexter Nelson said.

The same suburb was hit hard by a tornado in 1999. That storm had the distinction of producing the highest winds ever recorded near the Earth's surface — 302 mph (486 kph). □

Obama vows US support as Myanmar leader visits

M. PENNINGTON

NEDRA PICKLER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama told Myanmar's president during a long-awaited White House visit that he appreciates the leader's efforts to lead the Asian country on its long, and sometimes difficult, path to democracy and assured him of U.S. support.

Former general Thein Sein was the first president of Myanmar to visit the White House in 47 years. Activists objected to the invitation because of human rights concerns, but it marks a turnaround in international acceptance for Myanmar after decades of isolation and direct military rule.

Obama credited Thein Sein for political and economic reforms and ending significant tensions between their two countries.

"We very much appreciate your efforts in leadership in leading Myanmar in a new direction, and we want you to know that the United States will make every effort to assist you in what I know is a long and sometimes difficult, but ultimately correct, path to follow," Obama said.

In a speech at a university in Washington, Thein Sein called for a new era in U.S.-Myanmar relations. On domestic challenges, he vowed to ensure that communal violence between Buddhists and minority Muslims that has claimed hundreds of lives over the past year would be brought to a halt and that the perpetrators are brought to justice.

Obama said he expressed concern about violence against Muslims in the country. "The displacement of people, the violence directed toward them needs to stop," he said.

Obama said they discussed Thein Sein's intention to release more political prisoners, institutionalize political reform and rule of law and work to end ethnic conflict. "As President (Thein) Sein is the first to admit, this is a long jour-

ney and there is still much work to be done," he said. Thein Sein previously served in a repressive junta, and his meetings at the White House and Congress would have been all but impossible before he took the helm of a nominally civilian government in 2011. His name was only deleted from a blacklist barring travel to the U.S. in September.

Six months ago, Obama became the first sitting U.S.

president to visit the country also known as Burma.

The administration's outreach to Myanmar's generals has provided an important incentive for the military to loosen controls on citizens and reduce dependence on China.

Myanmar has been rewarded by relaxation of tough economic sanctions, and Thein Sein will be addressing U.S. businessmen keen to capitalize on the opening of one of Asia's

few untapped markets.

The U.S. last month announced it is considering duty-free access for Myanmar to U.S. markets, and on Tuesday the two governments will sign a bilateral trade and investment framework agreement.

Obama repeatedly referred to the nation as Myanmar, a departure from the common U.S. government reference to the country as Burma. White House spokesman Jay Car-

ney said the U.S. government has begun to allow limited use of the name Myanmar as "a diplomatic courtesy" to show respect for the ambitious reforms the country is pursuing. The last visit by a Myanmar leader to the White House was in September 1966 by Ne Win, an independence hero-turned-dictator, who began the nation's descent from regional rice bowl to economic basket case. □



President Barack Obama listens as Myanmar's President Thein Sein speaks during their meeting in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington, Monday, May 20, 2013. Thein Sein is the first Myanmar president to be welcomed to the White House in almost 47 years.

(AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

Hezbollah pulled more deeply into Syria civil war

ZEINA KARAM

Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Hezbollah was pulled more deeply into Syria's civil war as 28 guerrillas from the Lebanese Shiite militant group were killed and dozens more wounded while fighting rebels, Syria activists said Monday.

The intense battle drove rebels from large parts of the town of Qusair, part of a withering government offensive aimed at securing a strategic land corridor from Damascus to the Mediterranean coast.

Hezbollah-affiliated hospitals in Lebanon urged blood donations through mosque loudspeakers and ambulances raced

along the Damascus road in a stark indication of the group's increasingly prominent role in Syria.

The overt Hezbollah involvement — several funerals for group members were held Monday in Lebanon — edges the war further into a regional sectarian conflict pitting the Middle East's Iranian-backed Shiite axis against Sunnis.

It also raised tensions considerably in Lebanon, where Hezbollah has come under harsh criticism for its involvement in the civil war next door. A staunch ally of Syrian President Bashar Assad, Hezbollah is heavily invested in the survival of the Damascus regime and is known to have sent

fighters to aid government forces. The Iranian-backed group's growing role in the conflict also points to the deeply sectarian nature of the war in Syria, in which a rebellion driven by the country's Sunni majority seeks to overthrow a regime dominated by Assad's Alawite sect, an offshoot of Shiite Islam.

Clashes continued for the second day in the northern city of Tripoli, Lebanon, where Sunnis and Alawites battled in a direct spillover from the fighting in Qusair. The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, which tracks Syria's civil war, said that more than 70 Hezbollah fighters have also been wounded

in the fighting around Qusair. The White House said President Barack Obama telephoned Lebanon's president and expressed concern about Hezbollah's "active and growing role in Syria, fighting on behalf of the Assad regime, which is counter to the Lebanese government's policies."

More than 70,000 people have been killed and several million displaced since the uprising against Assad erupted in March 2011 and escalated into a civil war. The Syrian government and Hezbollah deny there is an uprising in Syria, portraying the war as a foreign-backed conspiracy driven by Israel, the U.S. and its gulf Arab allies. □

Boston cardinal skips event over Irish PM's role

JAY LINDSAY

Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — Cardinal Sean O'Malley skipped Boston College's commencement Monday to protest its decision to honor Irish Prime Minister Enda Kenny, who backs legislation to permit abortion, and the cardinal's views were echoed outside the ceremony by a few dozen anti-abortion activists.

The protesters gathered at an entrance to the stadium where Kenny gave the commencement address and received an honorary degree, with some holding signs saying it was a scandal that the Catholic school was hosting Kenny.

The bill supported by Kenny allows abortion only if a doctor authorizes it to save a woman's life. But opponents say it would lead to widespread abortions because of a provision that permits it if a woman threatens suicide.

Protester C.J. Doyle of the Catholic Action League called that "the proverbial Mack truck loophole." Doyle said Boston College's decision to honor Kenny undermines the church's anti-abortion teachings.

"What rational person can



Irish Prime Minister Enda Kenny waves to students from the dais at Boston College where he received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree during commencement ceremonies at Alumni Stadium in Boston, Monday, May 20, 2013.

(AP Photo/Elise Amendola)

reasonably be expected to take seriously Catholic opposition to abortion when our own Catholic institutions honor someone who's trying to legalize abortion in his country?" he said. Kenny didn't mention the controversy during his address to the graduating students. Afterward, Kenny told reporters the bill does nothing to change an 1861

Irish law that makes abortion a crime punishable by life in prison. Instead, the bill "is setting out clarity and legal certainty, that is intended to save lives, not to end them," he said. In 1992, Ireland's Supreme Court ruled abortion should be legal if doctors determine it's needed to save the woman's life. In 1992 and 2002, voters rejected two refer-

endums to allow abortion to stop a physical threat to a woman's life, not including suicide.

The current bill is being debated following last year's death of a woman who was hospitalized at the start of a protracted miscarriage during her 17th week of pregnancy. Doctors refused her request for an abortion and she died

of massive organ failure. The bill permits a single doctor to authorize an abortion if the woman's life is in immediate danger. Two doctors must approve if a pregnancy poses a potentially lethal risk. The approval of three doctors is required if the woman is threatening suicide.

O'Malley announced he'd skip Boston College's graduation earlier this month, saying Irish bishops had concluded the bill "represents a dramatic and morally unacceptable change to Irish law," and noting that U.S. bishops have asked Catholic institutions not to honor officials who promote abortion.

Boston College spokesman Jack Dunn said Monday that Kenny's invitation was unrelated to the controversial legislation and was offered solely because of historical ties between Kenny's country and a school founded by an Irish Jesuit to serve Irish immigrants. He said the invitation to Kenny in no way erodes the school's anti-abortion stance. "Boston College as a Catholic institution fully supports the church's commitment to the unborn," he said. □

Thousands march in NY to protest gay man's killing

JENNIFER PELTZ

TOM HAYS

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Thousands of people marched through the streets of Manhattan Monday to protest the killing of a gay man allegedly taunted with homophobic slurs — the most recent in a spate of bias attacks stirring up anxiety, disbelief and outrage in a famously gay-friendly neighborhood.

"We're here! We're queer!" and "Homophobia's got to go!" were among chants as a crowd marked the death of 32-year-old Mark Carson in Greenwich Village in lower Manhattan — not far from the site of 1969 riots that helped give rise to the gay rights movement. Christine Quinn, the city's first openly gay City Coun-

cil speaker and a mayoral candidate, marched along with Edie Windsor, whose pivotal case to win the same rights for gay couples as heterosexual couples is before the Supreme Court. Carson was killed Saturday as he walked with a companion through Greenwich Village. Police say a man charged with murder as a hate crime shot Carson in the head in the middle of one of the city's most progressive neighborhoods. In the wake of the deadly shooting, officials said Monday that police would increase their presence there and in nearby neighborhoods through the end of June, Gay Pride Month. A group that combats anti-gay violence planned to fan out to various areas on Friday nights through June

to talk to people about safety. And public schools are being asked to hold assemblies or other discussions of hate crimes and bullying before summer break.

City officials, gay-rights advocates and others joined the march Monday evening to denounce a rise in hate crime reports in a city that generally sees itself as a capital of diversity and tolerance.

One of Carson's aunts, Flourine Bompars, was among the marchers.

"The family would like to have justice be served, so that Mark's death is not in vain," she said at a rally at the march's end. She described her nephew as "a loving and caring person." Fabio Cotza, a gay member of an interfaith Bronx

church, said the killing "really makes me scared ... especially since it happened in this area." He said he looked around cautiously when he got off the subway train to march. "You feel like you're making headway and then it seems like there's a backlash," he said. The city and especially



People gather around a makeshift memorial for 32-year-old Mark Carson, Monday, May 20, 2013, in New York. Police said Elliot Morales yelled anti-gay slurs before shooting Carson point-blank in the face in Greenwich Village, a neighborhood long known as a bedrock of the gay rights movement.

(AP Photo/Frank Franklin II)

Greenwich Village have long been beacons for gay people. The gay rights movement crystallized in the Village in June 1969, when a police raid at the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar, touched off a riot and demonstrations that came to symbolize gays' resistance to being relegated to society's shadows. □



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Arias attorneys will put one witness on: Arias

BRIAN SKOLOFF
Associated Press

PHOENIX (AP) — Complaining that Jodi Arias' sensational murder case has become a modern-day "witch trial," her lawyers tried to quit in the middle of the death-penalty phase Monday, then said they will call only one witness: Arias.

When Arias addresses the jury on Tuesday, the big question will be whether she pleads for mercy or repeats what she told a TV reporter minutes after she was convicted: that she would rather be executed than spend the rest of her life in prison.

The courtroom fireworks came as the jury that found Arias guilty of murder in the 2008 shooting and stabbing death of boyfriend Travis Alexander was hearing evidence on whether the former waitress should get the death penalty or a life sentence.

Last week, Alexander's brother and sister tearfully described for the jury how his killing had torn their lives apart.

This week, the defense planned to call its own witnesses, including a female friend and an ex-boyfriend

of Arias, in hopes of convincing the jury her life is worth saving.

But defense attorney Kirk Nurmi told the court Mon-

day morning that the female witness refused to testify after receiving threats, and he asked the judge to declare a mistrial in the

penalty phase. He argued that he could no longer effectively defend Arias without all of the intended witnesses, and that "a partial

the jury during the nearly five-month trial and that it should never have been broadcast live. The case became a tabloid and ca-

so time and time again," Nurmi told the judge. "This cannot be a modern-day version of ... a witch trial."

Judge Sherry Stephens denied the mistrial request. Nurmi then asked that he and co-counsel Jennifer Willmott be allowed to withdraw from the case, saying they could not effectively represent Arias.

The judge turned down that request too, to which Nurmi quickly replied, "We will not be calling witnesses in the defense case."

Arias' attorneys also tried without success to quit after she gave the interview in which she said she would prefer death over life in prison.

Arias, 32, initially claimed she knew nothing about the slaying, then blamed masked intruders, then claimed self-defense.

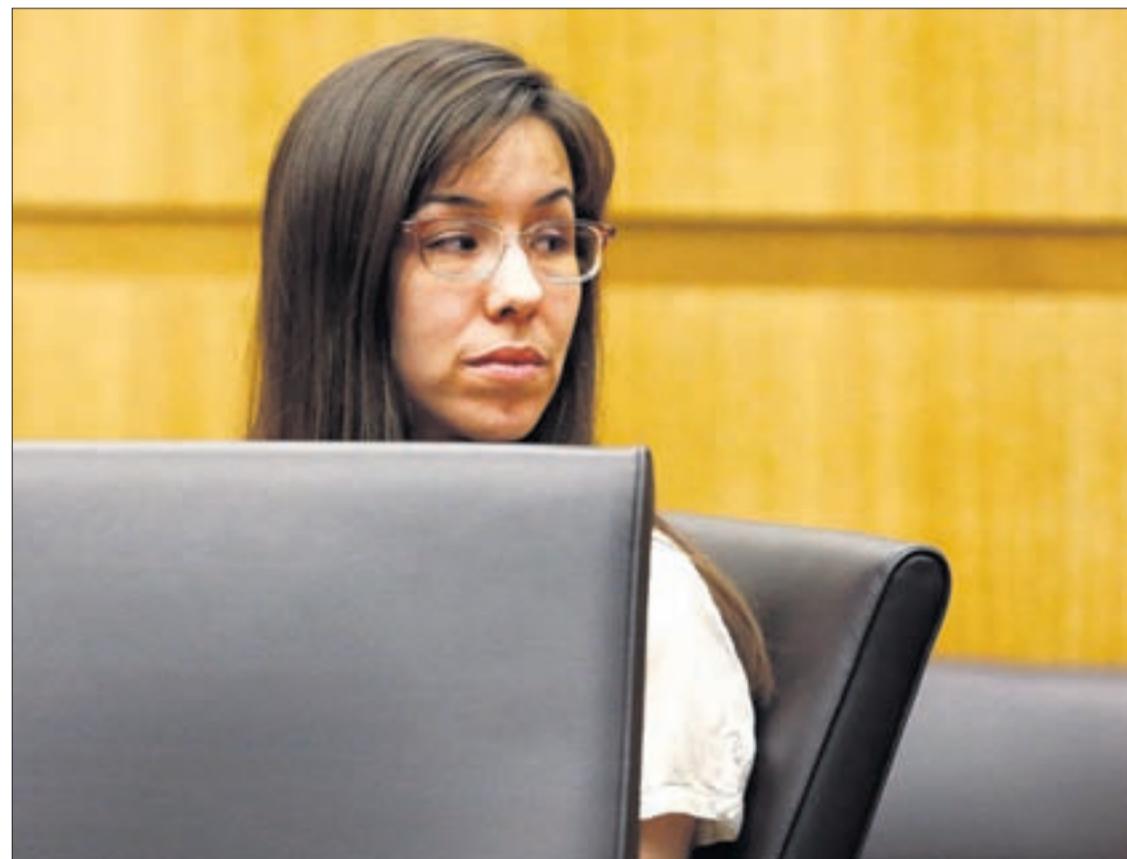
Prosecutors argued she killed Alexander in a jealous rage because he wanted to end their relationship and go to Mexico with another woman.

Experts say the sheer brutality of the killing has probably already sealed Arias' fate, so any witnesses presented during the penalty phase would have been pointless.

The victim suffered nearly 30 knife wounds, his throat was slit from ear to ear, and he was shot in the forehead. Arias then dragged him into his shower, where his decomposed body was found days later.

"I think they could put Mother Teresa on there and it's not going to spare her life," said Phoenix defense attorney Mel McDonald, a former judge and federal prosecutor.

San Francisco-area criminal defense lawyer Michael Cardoza said the request to quit the case and the defense decision not to call any witnesses on Arias' behalf could very well be a strategic move — but one that could backfire. □



Jodi Arias looks at her family on Monday, May 20, 2013 during the penalty phase of her murder trial at Maricopa County Superior Court in Phoenix, Ariz. Arias was convicted of first-degree murder in the stabbing and shooting to death of Travis Alexander, 30, in his suburban Phoenix home in June 2008.

(The Arizona Republic, Rob Schumacher)

day morning that the female witness refused to testify after receiving threats, and he asked the judge to declare a mistrial in the

picture is not good enough for this jury."

Nurmi also renewed arguments that the judge should have sequestered

ble sensation, with its tales of sex, lies and death.

"The court had a duty to protect Ms. Arias' right to a fair trial and failed to do

Saudi with pressure cooker seeks bond

DAVID N. GOODMAN
Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — A Saudi man arrested at Detroit Metropolitan Airport after allegedly lying about why he was traveling with a pressure cooker asked to be released on bond Monday. Hussain Al Khawahir, 33, was arrested May 11 by federal agents at the airport in Romulus, Michigan, and charged with giving false statements to federal agents and possessing an altered passport.

Defense lawyer James C. Howarth filed a motion asking a Detroit federal judge

to set bond for Al Khawahir, who didn't initially seek release. Howarth has said his client didn't know at the time of his arrest that pressure cookers were used to make the bombs in the Boston Marathon attack and was bringing the pressure cooker for use by his nephew, a student at the University of Toledo in Ohio. U.S. Justice Department lawyers did not immediately return an email from The Associated Press asking if they oppose Al Khawahir's release request. U.S. Customs and Border Protection also has a de-

tention order for him, and he would need to clear it as well to gain release.

Howarth used the motion to challenge the government's case, saying that Al Khawahir carried a valid, current Saudi passport as well as an expired passport, "purportedly altered," that contained a visa stamp for his entry to the U.S.

Howarth said the difference between two explanations that Al Khawahir gave federal agents about why he was bringing the pressure cooker — that his nephew couldn't find one in the U.S. and that the

ones available here were defective — were "possibly a distinction without much difference." He said

Al Khawahir "represents neither a risk of flight nor a danger to a person or the community."

Al Khawahir's next scheduled court date is May 28 for a hearing on whether there's enough evidence for the case to proceed.

In his motion, Howarth said his client contacted his nation's diplomats immediately after the arrest, and the government of Saudi Arabia "pledged its support" for him. □

Congressional panel: Apple avoided billions in taxes

NELSON D. SCHWARTZ
© 2013 New York Times

WASHINGTON Even as Apple became the nation's most profitable technology company, it avoided billions in taxes in the United States and around the world through a web of subsidiaries so complex it spanned continents and surprised experts, a congressional investigation has found.

Some of these subsidiaries had no employees and were largely run by top officials from the company's headquarters in Cupertino, Calif., according to congressional investigators. But by officially locating them in places like Ireland, Apple was able to, in effect,

make them stateless – exempt from taxes, record-keeping laws and the need for the subsidiaries to even file tax returns anywhere in the world.

In 2011, for example, one subsidiary paid Ireland just one-twentieth of 1 percent in taxes on \$22 billion on pretax earnings from various operations; another did not file a corporate tax return anywhere and has paid almost nothing on \$30 billion in profits since 2009. "Apple wasn't satisfied with shifting its profits to a low-tax offshore tax haven," said Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., chairman of the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations. "Apple sought the

holy grail of tax avoidance. It has created offshore entities holding tens of billions of dollars while claiming to

Overall, Apple's tax avoidance efforts shifted at least \$74 billion from the reach of the Internal Revenue

Investigators have not accused Apple of breaking any laws, and the company is hardly the only American multinational to face scrutiny for using complex corporate structures and tax havens to sidestep taxes.

Still, the findings about Apple were remarkable both for the enormous amount of money involved – tens of billions of dollars – and the audaciousness of the company's assertion that its subsidiaries are beyond the reach of any taxing authority because they are "stateless."

A Senate hearing on the issue is scheduled for Tuesday, and will include testimony by Apple's chief executive, Timothy D. Cook. Apple declined to comment, except to make available a text of the testimony Cook is expected to provide at the hearing. □



Apple's chief executive Tim Cook speaks in San Francisco. Even as Apple became the nation's most profitable technology company, it avoided billions in taxes in the U.S. and around the world through a web of subsidiaries so complex it spanned continents and surprised experts, a Congressional investigation has found.

(Jim Wilson/The New York Times)

be tax resident nowhere." John McCain, R-Ariz., the ranking member on the committee, added: "Apple claims to be the largest U.S. corporate taxpayer, but by sheer size and scale, it is also among America's largest tax avoiders."

Service between 2009 and 2012, the investigators said. That cash remains offshore, but Apple could still have to pay taxes on it to American authorities if the company were to return the money to its coffers in the United States.

Justices take case on prayer at NY town board meetings

ADAM LIPTAK
© 2013 New York Times

WASHINGTON - The Supreme Court on Monday agreed to decide whether a town board in upstate New York violated the First Amendment by starting its sessions with a prayer.

The case comes from Greece, a town near Rochester. For more than a decade starting in 1999, the town board began its public meetings with a prayer from a "chaplain of the month." Town officials said that members of all faiths and atheists were welcome to give the opening prayer.

In practice, the federal appeals court in New York said, almost all of the chaplains were Christian.

"A substantial majority of the prayers in the record contained uniquely Christian language," Judge Guido Calabresi wrote for a unanimous three-judge panel of the court, the

U.S. Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit. "Roughly two-thirds contained references to 'Jesus Christ,' 'Jesus,' 'Your Son,' or the 'Holy Spirit.'"

Two town residents sued, saying the prayers ran afoul of the First Amendment's prohibition of the government establishment of religion. The appeals court agreed.

"The town's prayer practice must be viewed as an endorsement of a particular religious viewpoint," Calabresi wrote.

In 1983, in *Marsh v. Chambers*, the Supreme Court upheld the Nebraska Legislature's practice of opening its legislative sessions with an invocation from a paid Presbyterian minister, saying that such ceremonies were "deeply embedded in the history and tradition of this country."

The new case is *Town of Greece v. Galloway*, No. 12-696. □

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Obama aides knew of tax probe; president not told of the report

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House chief of staff and other senior presidential advisers knew in late April that an upcoming report was likely to find that employees of the U.S. tax agency had inappropriately targeted conservative political groups — but they didn't tell President Barack Obama.

The White House on Monday said advisers left Obama to learn the re-

said.

Opposition Republicans have seized on the audit by a Treasury Department inspector general, which found that Internal Revenue Service employees singled out groups with names like "tea party" and "patriots" for special scrutiny that delayed their applications for tax exempt status — including during last year's presidential election.

House counsel, Kathryn Ruemmler, was first informed about the report on April 24, and she notified senior staff.

Carney said no one in the White House intervened in the audit. He also noted that the practice by the IRS workers ended in May 2012.

Republicans, however, are accusing Obama of being unaware of important happenings in the govern-



Ousted IRS chief Steven Miller, right, and J. Russell George, the Treasury inspector general for tax administration, are sworn in on Capitol Hill, in Washington, prior to testifying before the House Ways and Means Committee hearing on the extra scrutiny the IRS gave Tea Party and other conservative groups that applied for tax-exempt status.

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

sults from news reports. The White House defended that decision, with press secretary Jay Carney saying Obama was comfortable with the fact that "some matters are not appropriate to convey to him, and this is one of them."

The decision to keep the president in the dark about the Treasury Department report underscores the White House's cautious legal approach to controversies, as well as an apparent desire by top advisers to distance him from troubles threatening his administration.

"It is absolutely a cardinal rule, as we see it, that we do not intervene in ongoing investigations," Carney

Key words such as "tea party" and "patriots" are often used by conservative groups critical of Obama and his fellow Democrats. Republicans are using the news to criticize Obama ahead of next year's elections for Congress.

The controversy also has reignited the small-government tea party movement, whose influence in last year's election had waned compared to its muscular role in 2010. Monday's disclosure expanded the known circle of top officials who were aware of the Treasury Department report beyond those identified earlier by the White House.

Carney said the White

ment he oversees. Obama advisers argue that the outcry from Republicans would be far worse had top advisers told the president about the IRS audit before it became public, thereby raising questions about White House interference.

A White House peeking into an ongoing investigation can trigger a political uproar. A well-known case involved President Richard Nixon trying to hinder the FBI's probe of the Watergate break-in in the early 1970s. In the current IRS matter, two congressional committees this week plan to question IRS and Treasury officials about what they knew and when. □

Q&A ON THE IRS SCANDAL

JONATHAN WEISMAN

MICHAEL D. SHEAR

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The New York Times answers frequently asked questions about the Internal Revenue Service's improper targeting of conservative groups.

Q: When did the possibility that the Internal Revenue Service was improperly targeting conservative groups first become public?

A: The first reports emerged in February 2012 on conservative websites like The Blaze. The New York Times first reported on the issue on March 6, 2012. "In recent weeks, the IRS has sent dozens of detailed questionnaires to Tea Party organizations applying for nonprofit tax status, demanding to know their political leanings and activities," The Times wrote at the time.

Q: When did an official investigation of the IRS behavior begin?

A: Rep. Darrell Issa of California, the chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, and Rep. Jim Jordan, R-Ohio, requested a formal audit by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration on June 28, 2012. It asked that the audit cover the IRS oversight of organizations applying for tax-exempt status. The inspector general's staff met with Issa's committee shortly thereafter, and the inspector general, J. Russell George, formally notified the lawmakers on July 11, 2012, that he had begun his audit. George also let the Treasury general counsel know of his audit in June 2012 and Deputy Treasury Secretary Neal S. Wolin shortly after.

Q: White House officials have emphasized Issa's early involvement. Why have they done so?

A: One of the Republican targets of inquiry is to ask how much the White House knew about the IRS activities and whether administration officials should have taken action to stop it once they knew. By pointing out that Issa was aware of the IRS audit in the summer of 2012, White House officials are hoping to show that the Republican outrage is manufactured. White House officials argue that both they and Republicans knew about the audit in 2012, but no one yet knew what it would conclude. It ultimately found that officials in the Cincinnati office acted wrongly and that higher-level IRS officials attempted to stop the inappropriate practices once they knew of them.

Q: Where does the matter go from here?

A: On Monday, Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont., who chairs the Senate Finance Committee, and Sen. Orrin Hatch of Utah, the ranking Republican, sent a six-page letter with 41 questions to Steven T. Miller, the acting IRS commissioner who was forced out over the controversy. Those questions, which are to be answered by May 31, go well beyond the IRS to the question that Republicans have been hitting on for a week: Who in the Obama administration knew what and when?

Q: When will the next hearings be held?

A: A Senate Finance Committee hearing on Tuesday will feature Douglas Shulman, a George W. Bush appointee and the last confirmed IRS commissioner, who headed the service during much of the targeting effort. On Wednesday, the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee holds its first hearing, which will include Lois Lerner, who headed the IRS division overseeing tax-exempt organizations and who tried to shape and temper the targeting effort. Members of the committee have accused Lerner of having lied to them about the effort. Wolin is also scheduled to testify on Wednesday, making him the first Obama administration official to answer questions before Congress on the matter. □

New York police defends itself on Muslim surveillance

MATT APUZZO
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A New York Police Department detective told a federal judge that he's seen no evidence that one of his informants brought up the subject of jihad as a way to bait Muslims into making incriminating remarks. But text messages obtained by The Associated Press show otherwise.

And while the detective, Stephen Hoban, described the activities in a new legal filing in U.S. District Court as narrowly focused on a few people under investigation, text messages show a wide-ranging effort. Eager to make money, the informant, Shamiur Rahman, snapped pictures during prayer sessions, rallies and a parade; recorded the names of people who signed petitions or protested; and reported fellow Muslims who volunteered to feed needy families.

When the detective responded, his text messages nearly always sought more information:

"Did you take pictures?"
"I need pictures from the rally. And I need to know who is there."

"Get pictures"

Rahman told the AP last year that he made about \$9,000 over nine months spying widely on friends and others. He said the NYPD encouraged him to use a tactic called "create and capture." He said it involved creating conversations about jihad or terrorism, then capturing the responses and sending them to the NYPD.

Now, as the NYPD defends itself from allegations by civil rights lawyers that such tactics violated a long-standing federal court order, the department said Rahman was either lying or didn't know what he was talking about.

The different accounts of Rahman's activities are significant. Taken with the NYPD's use of plainclothes detectives assigned to the Demographics Unit to catalog Muslim business and eavesdrop on conversations, civil rights lawyers

say that Rahman's tactics show the NYPD is violating court-imposed rules about what files it can keep on activities protected by the First Amendment's right to free speech.

The NYPD strongly denies that, and Hoban's affidavit is central to its defense.

"Rahman was never tasked to, nor did he as far as I know, engage in what he refers to as a 'create and capture' methodology," Hoban wrote. "There are 57 field reports documenting Rahman's work as an informant. In reviewing those field reports, it is clear that Rahman did not use what he refers to in his declaration as a 'create and capture' strategy."

Rahman allowed the AP to review months of text messages with Hoban from January to September 2012. "Hey bro," Rahman told Hoban in one message. "I think im going to bring up jihad with these guys tonight, see what they say and know and then go home because everyone's really just praying and stuff." Hoban did not respond to that message. Rahman previously said his NYPD handler only encouraged him to use the tactic, never dissuaded him. Rahman did not respond to messages for comment from AP after Hoban's filing in federal court in Manhattan. The NYPD's court papers also reveal for the first time the scope of the monitoring by its Demographics Unit, now called the Zone Assessment Unit. In the past three years, the unit has filed more than 4,200 reports, or about four per day.

Each report typically describes a clandestine visit to a business or mosque, the ethnicity of the clientele and, in some cases, what conversations the officers overheard. The detectives reported details from more than 200 conversations, or about one a week.

Thomas Galati, the commanding officer of the Intelligence Division, said most of those conversations were used to gauge people's reactions to over-

seas events. The AP has previously reported that Demographics detectives were extremely interested in people's reactions to U.S. drone attacks.

The civil rights lawyers want a federal judge to appoint an outside monitor to oversee the NYPD's intelligence-gathering operations, which the police department is strongly resisting. Such a monitor, the NYPD says, "would have rippling negative effects with dire consequences."

David Cohen, the NYPD's top intelligence official, argued in court documents that he and a battery of lawyers review all investigations. Oversight from outside the department, he said, would make New York a more dangerous place to live.

As evidence that New York was under constant threat of terrorism, he said the suspects in last month's Boston Marathon bombing were headed to Times Square, where he said they might have carried out an attack deadlier than the one in Boston, which killed three people. □



This photo shows Shamiur Rahman, left, sitting with Siraj Wahhaj at John Jay College of Criminal Justice in Manhattan, New York. The New York Police Department defends its surveillance of Muslims as narrowly focused in a new court filing in a civil rights lawsuit. But text messages between a detective and an informant obtained by The Associated Press reveal wide-ranging efforts to get Muslims to privately make incriminating statements about jihad.

(AP Photo/Courtesy of Jamill Noorata)



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Brutal attacks kill 95 in Iraq, hint of Syrian spillover

SINAN SALAHEDDIN

Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq's wave of bloodshed sharp-

country, part of attacks that killed at least 95 people and brought echoes of past sectarian carnage

spiral of violence — which has claimed more than 240 lives in the past week — carries the hallmarks of

gents, including al-Qaida's branch in Iraq, and Shiite militias defending their newfound power after Saddam Hussein's fall.

But the widening shadow and regional brinksmanship from Syria's conflict now increasingly threaten to feed into Iraq's sectarian strife, heightening concerns that Iraq could be turning toward civil war.

The Shiite-led government of Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki must balance its close ties with Iran — the main regional ally of Syria's Bashar Assad — and its position among fellow Arab League members and neighboring Turkey, which strongly back Syria's mainly Sunni opposition. Al-Maliki appears determined to boost security crackdowns to keep Iraq's minority Sunnis from taking a more high-profile role in the anti-Assad forces, which have received pledges of support from the longtime insurgent group al-Qaida in Iraq. There have been no claims of responsibility

for the current flare-up of violence, capped by Monday's body count that was the highest death toll for a single day in 10 months. Yet some analysts believe it's difficult to separate Iraq's deep sectarian suspicions from the Shiite-Sunni split over Assad, which has also led to clashes in Lebanon. "Iraq now has moved into a bigger circle that covers Syria and Lebanon," said Baghdad-based political affairs analyst Hadi Jalo. Al-Maliki is not only worried about his Sunni rivals possibly deepening their involvement in the rebel cause in Syria, said Patrick Clawson, director of research at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy. Al-Maliki's worries extend to Iraq's semiautonomous northern Kurdish region, which has close links to Assad's foe Turkey.

"Al-Maliki believes this is the time to be tough and show he is in control of the country," said Clawson. "What we are seeing is the backlash to that." □



Civilians inspect the scene of a car bomb attack in Kamaliyah neighborhood, a predominantly Shiite area of eastern Baghdad, Iraq, Monday, May 20, 2013. A wave of car bombings across Baghdad's Shiite neighborhoods and in the southern city of Basra killed and wounded dozens of people, police said.

(AP Photo/Hadi Mizban)

ly escalated Monday with more than a dozen car bombings across the

and fears of a dangerous spillover from Syria's civil war next door. The latest

the two sides that brought nearly nonstop chaos to Iraq for years: Sunni insur-

Egypt: Security beefed up in Sinai after abduction

SARAH EL DEEB

Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Dozens of Egyptian troops and armored vehicles moved into Sinai Monday as the government beefed up security in the volatile peninsula after the abduction of six policemen and a border guard by suspected Islamic militants.

The security deployment comes a day after the release of a video of the captives, blindfolded and with their hands tied behind their backs, pleading for President Mohammed Morsi and his defense minister to free them by granting the demands of the men who seized them last week.

Sinai has been a major challenge for Morsi since shortly after he took office in June 2012. Later that summer, militants carried out the most brazen attack against border troops along the frontier with the Gaza Strip and Israel, leaving 16 Egyptian soldiers

dead. The new leader vowed then to restore stability to the area. A brief military operation at the time resulted in the closures of some smuggling tunnels, and the arrest of the man believed to be at the heart of the current kidnapping, Ahmed Abu Shita.

Last Thursday's abduction came after Abu Shita's mother said her son had been badly tortured in detention, almost losing his eyesight.

Security officials believe Abu Shita's colleagues, members of an extremist group convicted in a major attack on a police station in North Sinai last year, are behind the attack. Abu Shita and 13 others were sentenced to death; including eight in absentia. The captors have demanded the release of hundreds of prisoners from Sinai, including some who have been held since before the 2011 ouster of authoritarian leader Hosni Mubarak, according to Mohammed

Abu Samra, an Islamist familiar with the negotiations. Morsi has been consulting with his security team, government officials, political and religious leaders on



An Egyptian Army vehicle with a tank heads to the closed Rafah border crossing between Egypt and the Gaza strip, in Sheikh Zuweyid, northern Sinai, Egypt, Monday, May 20, 2013.

(AP Photo/Roger Anis)

how to resolve the hostage crisis, which has highlighted the increasingly complex security situation in Sinai. Bedouins have long complained of discrimination, heavy-handed security crackdowns during the

previous regime and unfulfilled promises to redress such detentions, leading to a spate of kidnappings of foreign tourists who for the most part were quickly re-

Morsi has said all options are open to free the seven men. He also rejected dialogue with "criminals," but officials have said security officials through mediators and local tribesmen have been in touch with the captors. They say they do not know if the deployment is a prelude to a rescue attempt. "Every move must be well calculated before it is carried out ... The aim is that those (kidnapped) are released and safely," presidential spokesman Omar Amer told reporters.

Amer said help from Sinai tribesmen and families are welcomed, but he denied the presidency itself had sent any mediators.

"The current circumstances call for intensified security presence," Amer said of the deployment. "All alternatives are open, military operations or not. We are studying all alternatives." A senior security official in Cairo said there were no orders to start a rescue operation. □

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Iran election overseers may bar former president

ALI AKBAR DAREINI

Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran's election overseers said Monday they will bar candidates who are physically weak from running in next month's presidential election, a reference to a former leader seen as a threat to hard-liners.

Ex-president Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani's entry in the race scrambled the equations because of his popularity, reputation and potential to draw voters away from conservatives.

Rafsanjani is 78. Opponents claim that he is too old to run the country, and the body that must decide who can run in the June 14 election indicated it agrees — as a way of removing the threat to Iran's hard-liners.

Abbas Ali Kadkhodaei, spokesman of the Guardian Council that vets election candidates, said the council won't allow candidates who are limited in their physical abilities.

"If a person is able to work only few hours a day, it's natural that he can't be approved," Kadkhodaei was quoted by the semi-official Mehr news agency as saying Monday.

He didn't name any of the candidates, but it was a clear reference to Rafsanjani.

The council is expected to release its list of approved candidates on Tuesday.

The unexpected entry of Rafsanjani into the race has cut into chances of victory for a candidate loyal to Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei in the June 14 vote.

There is also widespread speculation in Iranian me-

dia that Esfandiar Rahim Mashaei, President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's close confidant, will be barred from running.

Ahmadinejad cannot run for another term as president according to term limits under Iran's constitution. Instead, he has been trying to ensure that a loyalist succeeds him.

Ahmadinejad has openly backed Mashaei, saying "Mashaei means Ahmadinejad, and Ahmadinejad means Mashaei."

Hard-liners accuse Mashaei of being the leader of a "deviant current" that seeks to undermine Islamic rule and compromise the Islamic system. Some critics have even claimed he conjured black magic spells to fog Ahmadinejad's mind.

More than 100 lawmakers have petitioned the council to bar both Rafsanjani and Mashaei from the vote.

Given Mashaei's role in a messy power struggle between Ahmadinejad and the ruling clerics, he is likely to be barred, but Rafsanjani is seen as too respected to be disqualified.

Rafsanjani is a founder of the 1979 Islamic revolu-

tion that brought the clerics to power. He was the closest confidant of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, spiritual leader of the 1979 revolution. Even Khamenei largely owes his position to

lawmaker Ali Motahari, who supports Rafsanjani, was quoted by the semi-official ISNA news Monday. But a headline on a conservative news website, alef.ir, read, "Rafsanjani

from 2009 riots were not eligible to run, referring to the popular protests over the disputed re-election of Ahmadinejad as "sedition." It was another hint that Rafsanjani could be banned.



Former Iranian President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, 78, waves to media, as he registers his candidacy for the upcoming presidential election, at the election headquarters of the interior ministry in Tehran, Iran. Iran's election overseers say they will bar physically weak hopefuls from running in next month presidential election, a direct hint at Rafsanjani. Iran's Constitution doesn't set any age limit for presidential candidates. (AP Photo/Ebrahim Noroozi)

Rafsanjani's support. "If it happens (Rafsanjani is disqualified), the foundation of the ruling system would be brought into question," conservative

on the verge of being disqualified." Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati, head of the Guardian Council, warned Friday that those who did not distance themselves

A government crackdown in 2009 put an end to street protests, but Rafsanjani remained critical over the way the ruling system dealt with the crisis. □

Israel gunman shoots 4 dead at bank, kills self

TIA GOLDENBERG

Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — A gunman stormed into a bank in the southern Israeli city of Beersheba Monday, killing four people in a gunfight and taking a hostage before killing himself, police said.

Police initially suspected a bungled bank robbery but later changed their assess-

ment.

They identified the gunman as a former military officer who fell on hard times financially. The 40-year-old man arrived at the bank to withdraw money and settle a debt, police said. He reportedly got into an argument with the bank manager and came back an hour later with a handgun that was licensed to

him and opened fire.

The dead included the bank manager, his deputy and two clients. Four other people were wounded, one seriously. After the shooting rampage, the man then took a woman hostage and held her for an hour in the bathroom before turning the gun on himself. "He kept one hand on my mouth and

said 'shut up or I'll kill you,' and the other hand held the gun in front of me," recounted the hostage, Miriam Cohen, in an interview with Israel's Channel 10 TV. "Then he put the gun in his mouth ... and I heard a gunshot." "The murderer came in with an intention to shoot," national police chief Yohanan Danino told reporters. □

Jordan: Arab Spring clears way for press freedoms

JAMAL HALABY

Associated Press

AMMAN, Jordan (AP) —

The Arab Spring uprisings that toppled four Arab leaders have forced Middle East governments to allow more freedom of expression and of the press, Jordan's prime minister said Monday, but critics charged that Jordan itself is not doing enough.

Abdullah Ensour told a meeting of the Vienna-based International Press Institute, "The past few years have been very crucial to our region, because the Arab Spring has opened new horizons and created more demands" for wider freedoms of expression and the press.

Ensour said Jordan has "come a long way" in improving legislation governing press freedoms after many years of strict state censorship of media outlets.

"Obviously, we're not yet where we want to be, but we are determined to continue," he said.

Jordanian participants at the conference complained that the country's media law, significantly restricting press freedoms by imposing harsh penalties on violators, forces journal-

ists to practice self-censorship.

Nidal Mansour, head of the Amman-based Center for Defending Freedom of Journalists — IPI's hosting partner — said that

The latest legislation requires websites dealing with vaguely defined "press materials" to register with the Department of Press and Publication, once officially called the

Under the law, the director of the Department of Press and Publication has the authority to block websites, including those originating from abroad, if they are deemed in violation of the

However, other constraints remain, including a ban on criticizing the king in public, punishable by up to three years in jail. King Abdullah II holds final authority in most matters.

While the government approved a code of conduct several years ago with the intention of fostering a "free and independent media," journalists are still closely watched by intelligence agencies and often report harassment and threats. Bloggers have been arrested by Jordanian authorities, and as a result, many practice self-censorship. Last year, a private satellite TV station was closed after airing views critical of members of the royal family.

Ensour pledged more liberalization, noting that there are about 500 local news services online. He said two-thirds of the percent of the population can access the Internet, and local firms translate Web content into Arabic for the local audience.

He said Jordan ranks third in the Arab world in active users of social media networks.

For example, two out of five Jordanians use Facebook, he said. □



Jordanian journalists protest in front of the Jordanian House of Parliament, symbolically wearing tape over their mouths, as they protest over proposed changes to the anti-corruption law they believe will muzzle press freedoms, in Amman, Jordan.

(AP Photo/Mohammad Hannon)

the press law updated last year was designed to muzzle press freedom.

"The Press and Publication Law has been and continues to be a sword on the necks of all journalists in Jordan," he said. The law has been amended at least seven times in 10 years.

Censorship Department, and pay a fee of \$1,400 (1,000 Jordanian dinars). Websites are also required to appoint a Jordanian chief editor who would be held accountable for all online content, including comments posted by readers.

law.

Since the Arab Spring uprisings, Jordan's government has appeared to ease restrictions on freedom of expression, opinion and assembly. It has allowed protests to take place without seeking prior permission from the government.

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Russia claims to have foiled possible Moscow terror act

MOSCOW (AP) — Russia's counterterrorism agency said Monday that its special forces killed two militants and detained a third believed to have been planning a terrorist act in Moscow.

A spokesman for the National Anti-Terrorist Committee, known as NAK, said on state television that the militants were Russian citizens who had received training along the Afghanistan-Pakistan border. They were not identified.

Russian special forces regularly announce that they have thwarted terrorist attacks, although this most often occurs in the Caucasus region of southern Russia where an Islamic in-

surgency is simmering. The last major terrorist attack in Moscow was a suicide bombing at the Domodedovo international airport in January 2011 that left 37 people dead.

NAK spokesman Dmitry Pavlov said special forces surrounded the building where the militants were holed up in the Moscow suburb of Orehovo-Zuevo and ordered them to surrender, but instead the militants opened fire. He said one of the special forces was lightly wounded in the operation but no local residents were hurt.

It was not clear when the operation took place and no further information was immediately available. □

Venezuela opposition: Audio suggests Cuba meddling

FABIOLA SANCHEZ
KARL RITTER
Associated Press
CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)
— Venezuela's opposi-

said contains a prominent member of the ruling party discussing political strategy with a Cuban intelligence officer.

cording captures a phone conversation between state TV personality Mario Silva, a staunch government ally, and a Cuban

Venezuela's opposition has long accused Cuban leaders of wielding influence behind the scenes in guiding government decisions. For its part, the Venezuelan government accuses opposition leader Henrique Capriles of being a puppet of the U.S.

At a news conference, Garcia didn't say when the conversation was recorded or how he obtained it. In it, a man identified as Silva is heard discussing a split in the ruling socialist party between parliament leader Diosdado Cabello and President Nicolas Maduro, the late Hugo Chavez's successor.

The man says he worries that Cabello, a former army officer, is conspiring against the president, who narrowly defeated Capriles in an April 14 election that the opposition refuses to accept, claiming fraud. For example, the voice says, Maduro's opponents in the party want to remove Defense Minister Diego Molero.

"Why do they want to remove him, Palacios? To be able to take the armed forces and put pressure on Maduro or to behave

as they please or to pull a coup d'etat," the man says.

Silva dismissed the recording on Twitter as a "montage" and suggested U.S. and Israeli intelligence agencies were behind it. Cuban authorities did not immediately respond to a request for reaction or information about Palacios. Cabello also didn't return calls seeking comment.

In a speech broadcast Monday on state TV, Maduro called for an end to "intrigues" against his administration and the armed forces but didn't specifically mention the recording. During his 14-year reign, Chavez forged close ties with Cuba, where he was treated for the cancer that killed him March 5. Venezuela has shipped billions of dollars' worth of oil to the island on preferential terms.

Capriles had urged his supporters to pay attention to the news conference in which the recording was released.

"Every corrupt and illegitimate government always implodes!" he tweeted later Monday. □



Opposition lawmaker Ismael Garcia, center, speaks during a news conference in Caracas, Venezuela, Monday, May 20, 2013. Venezuela's opposition has released an audio recording that it says contains a prominent member of the ruling party discussing political strategy with a Cuban intelligence officer. They have accused Cuban leaders of wielding influence behind the scenes in guiding government decisions. (AP Photo/Fernando Llano)

tion on Monday released an audio recording that it

Opposition lawmaker Ismael Garcia said the re-

identified as Lt. Col. Aramis Palacios.

More bodies recovered in collapsed Indonesia mine

J. PATTIRAJAWANE
Associated Press
TIMIKA, Indonesia (AP) — Rescuers recovered five more bodies from a collapsed underground room at a giant U.S.-owned gold and copper mine in Indonesia, bringing the confirmed death toll to 14, police said Monday. Fourteen other workers were still missing and feared dead. The Big Gossan underground training facility at the PT Freeport Indonesia mine collapsed last Tuesday when 38 workers were undergoing safety training. Ten injured miners were rescued.

Mining operations at the Grasberg mine in the easternmost province of Papua have been suspended since the accident to pay respects to the victims and to concentrate on the rescue effort. The company

said the accident was expected to have no significant impact on its operations.

Papua police spokesman Lt. Col. Gede Sumerta Jaya said five more bodies were found early Monday buried under tons of rocks and dirt. Correcting his earlier statement, Sumerta said all the recovered bodies were men.

"There is no possibility of life five days after the cave-in ... this is really a heart-breaking accident," he said.

The company said efforts to recover more bodies in the rubble were being slowed by the need to stabilize the ground and roof because of falling rocks.

Richard Adkerson, president and CEO of its parent company, Freeport McMoRan Copper and Gold Inc., arrived at the scene Saturday and visited the injured

workers and the families of those still buried at the accident site.

quoted by a company's statement. "The entire Freeport family around the



The Indonesian unit of Arizona-based Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc., rescuers gather inside a tunnel that collapsed on Tuesday morning as they continue the attempt to rescue trapped workers at Big Gossan mining area in Mimika, Papua province, Indonesia. (AP Photo/PT Freeport Indonesia)

"I am deeply saddened and disturbed by this event," Adkerson said as

He said the focus now is continuing efforts to gain access to the victims as quickly as can be done safely.

Around 1,000 workers were still blocking a main road about two miles (three kilometers) away in solidarity with the victims, and to seek a guarantee of worker safety underground.

Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono has ordered Freeport and government agencies to thoroughly investigate the accident. More than 20,000 workers are employed at the mine that has repeatedly been targeted by arson attacks, roadside bombs and blockades since production began in the 1970s. It's located in the remote mountains of Papua province, which is home to a decades-long, low-level insurgency. □



TEAM ARUBA SCORES FIRST ADRL WIN!

CORDOVA, Ill. May 20, 2013: Heading into the ADRL Spring Drags, Team Aruba was looking to wrap up some unfinished business, and that's exactly what they did. From start to finish, Trevor Eman and the gang from Aruba dominated Extreme Pro Stock the entire weekend. In their first qualifying pass, they laid down the number which would remain on top for the weekend, a 4.099 at 175.98 MPH. The Aruba.com / Alltel Wireless Mustang was again the fastest car in rounds two and three of qualifying. In round four, John Montecalvo and John Pluchino matched Eman's 4.114, but no one was able to beat it. The team's impressive feats continued on race day. The Kaase Racing Engines powered machine muscled its way through the rounds. Brian Gahm's 4.249 elapsed time was no match for Eman's 4.148 in round one. In the semi finals Eman had the quickest elapsed time of the round, a 4.136 paired with an .024 reaction, time to take out John Pluchino who went .002 red on 4.149 run. Team Aruba would have lane choice in the finals against former World Champion Pete Berner. Although Eman and Berner had been running close numbers all day, Eman made it look easy in the finals, laying down an .003 light and pulling away by a car length, crossing the stripe first with another 4.136.

The team from the 'happy island' had one of their happiest moments ever, as they celebrated this long-awaited victory.

"We definitely finished our unfinished business from Valdosta," relayed an elated Eman. "To come to the next race and qualify number one again was a very satisfying way to know we had that momentum. Then to maintain the fastest

elapsed time out of each round was even better. We made it down the track each and every time from A to B making straight runs and good runs. "After winning the first round against Brian Gahm, reality started to kick in that we could have a good chance of winning the race. And sure enough we were able to accomplish that. It was very emotional for the whole team. Everybody

better than we can ever hoped for.

"The emotion between all team members after winning our first race was extremely touching. It was a feeling I got to share with a great group of guys that I wouldn't trade for the world.

"Norbert Dirksz who was at the race with us, along with Jeff Lopez and Nelson Winklaar who are back in Aruba keep everybody in Aruba

family from Granite City, Ill; Claret Lopez and Greg Peterson who are die hard supporters of Team Aruba. All of these people accompanied us at this race because they knew history was going to be made. "I wish Aruba in its entirety could have been with us, together with the Aruban drag racing community, who are just as passionate as, and possibly even more than, me about this sport.



has been working real hard to accomplish this, and my gratitude and my hat goes off to the entire team.

"My father eats, sleeps and breathes Team Aruba. Bobby has dedicated himself to this team more than anything. John Peterson is one of the hardest working guys I've ever seen. Pat Norcia from RAM Clutches puts his mind totally into this program and is as precise of a person as there is. Doug Schriener from Braswell Carburetors has some awesome carburetors on our motor and has this team better organized than ever. Greg Brown from Jon Kaase Racing Engines has our motor completely dominated in a way that has given us a motor that is performing

and all of our followers on Facebook completely up to date on every move Team Aruba makes," Eman continued.

"Their efforts have helped create a following of Team Aruba that we could have never expected. So many people were back home watching the live feed and the congratulatory comments were coming in from the moment we qualified number one.

"Above all, we were surrounded by a lot family at this event- my uncle Mike, the Prime Minister of Aruba, with my aunt Doina; my uncle Braat together with his daughter Anouk who was accompanied by her synchronized swimming partner Rym; the Boushard

To all of our social media followers, I cannot thank everybody enough for the kind words they all shared with us. I am told that the crowd standing behind the Aruba.com/Alltel Wireless Mustang was unlike any other when racing the final round. I wish I could have been standing between them to see the reaction when the win light came on. "Together with great sponsors, great things happen.

We are very grateful to the Aruba Tourism Authority who support us and believe in what we are trying to accomplish by drag racing professionally in the United States. Alltel Wireless is a great group of people that are just wonderful to be associated with. Having

a brand name as big and popular as Alltel Wireless on the hood of a race car makes us feel really good to put that name in the winner's circle.

"The ADRL is doing a wonderful job putting on these races.

They are giving us an exciting environment to race in, and they have our full commitment to participating in their events. They have a good group of people working for them that also want to see the ADRL grow bigger and better. The Traction Twins have a track prepared for us in a way that only spoils us more and more every race- we thank you for that.

"Last but not least, I want to thank all the racers in the Extreme Pro Stock category. I want to thank them for having made this such a difficult challenge. It makes our first win that much more special. These guys are some of the best people to call friends, but when we're at the starting line against them, it doesn't matter how good of friends they can be, they are going to race hard. This weekend we finally got to show that we don't back down and we've got what it takes to stand up against such tough competition. They have beat up on us for a long time. They know this is something that needs to be earned.

"We cannot wait to get another chance to do this again!"

Keep up with Team Aruba at www.facebook.com/teamarubaracing and on Twitter @TeamArubaRacing.

Find race results, team updates, videos and photos. Also leave your comments to cheer on Team Aruba!

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BTA and ArkeFly organize beach tennis event, May 25 & 26!



PALM BEACH - BTA and airline partner ArkeFly will organize the 5th ranking

Ice cold drinks at the BTA bar and food by Senor frog's.

doubles, doubles. The Youth tournament on the Saturday afternoon will have only doubles in the levels Fun, Intermediate and Advanced.

Program:
Saturday May 25:
9 am – 2 pm: Singles.
2 pm – 6 pm: Mix doubles.
2 pm – 6 pm: Youth.

Sunday May 26:
10 am – 6 pm : Men- & women doubles.

Registration @ <http://www.beachtennisaruba.com/events-2/> 'ranking events'. For standings and more information about this tournament surf to www.Beachtennisaruba.com and go to 'Ranking 2013'.

If you want to try the fastest growing sport on the island, just go to Moomba beach bar (located between Holiday Inn and Marriott) and rent a court with paddle racquets for only \$ 5.- per person!

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event of 2013. The event will take place at Eagle Beach where we expect around 300 participants to play over the weekend in all categories, levels and ages. 14 Courts will be set up, plenty tents with shade and seating area as well as a lounge area with bean bags.

Everyone can play at their own level from beginner till Pro.

Levels : Fun(beginner), Intermediate, Advanced and Open.

There will be prize money in Open doubles men & women.

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We've kept it solemn for obvious reasons and simple because of the ages of some of our vets who might find it difficult to stand in the sun too long. We have attracted veterans from all nations – Holland, Aruba and South Africa to mention a few. So in fair-

ness to all, we thought that large national banners and anthems would be inappropriate. However, we encourage participants to wear any uniforms or national symbols they wish to wear.

Veterans will gather on the beach at 10am on May 27th to form the detail. We ask that viewers leave the area of the beach clear between the detail and the surf.

There will be a call to attention followed by a reading of the poem "We Stand by the Sea" as a memorial wreath of flowers will be placed in the surf. There will then be another poem read followed by the playing of Taps and the presentation of arms by the Detail. The Detail will then be dismissed. All those wishing to join us on Memorial Day, May 27th are welcomed. We will convene on the beach at 10 am. □



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SPORTS

Aruba TODAY



Tiger Woods smiles as he holds the trophy after winning The Players Championship golf tournament at TPC Sawgrass, Sunday, May 12, 2013, in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.

Associated Press

**Just say 'no'
to make-up
between
Woods, Garcia**

JOSEPH WHITE
AP Sports Writer

BETHESDA, Maryland (AP)

— Tiger Woods spoke for some 20 minutes about the state of his game, belly putters, the U.S. Open and the AT&T National. As he was wrapping up, he needed just one word to cover the topic of Sergio Garcia.

Asked if he had any thought of contacting Garcia to make amends between the two, Woods quickly answered: "No." He smiled. Nearly everyone else in the room laughed. Hardly the best of the friends, the Woods-Garcia relationship hit petty proportions during this month's Players Championship over a dispute as to whether Woods inadvertently or maliciously — or somewhere in between — disrupted the Spaniard's swing when they were paired together during the tournament's third round.

Continued on Page 19



**Ottawa gets back
in series with 2OT win**



**11 SENATE
MAJORITY**

Ottawa Senators' Erik Condra, left, Colin Greening, center, Jean-Gabriel Pageau, right, and Daniel Alfredsson celebrate after Greening scores the winning goal against the Pittsburgh Penguins during the second overtime period of Game 4 of their Stanley Cup Eastern Conference semifinal NHL hockey series at Scotiabank Place in Ottawa on Sunday, May 19, 2013.

Associated Press
Page 20



AJ Allmendinger, left, smile as he talks with a member of his crew after he qualified on the first day of qualifications for the Indianapolis 500 auto race at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway in Indianapolis, Saturday, May 18, 2013.

Associated Press

AJ Allmendinger taking life 1 day at a time

JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina

(AP) — AJ Allmendinger's parents attended their first Indianapolis 500 in 1979, when they camped in a grassy lot and watched Rick Mears win his first 500. Their son was born two years later — Greg Allmendinger named him after A.J. Foyt, his favorite driver — and for a time it seemed like the Allmendingers would make it back to Indy with him.

Allmendinger had risen through the open-wheel ranks to become one of the top drivers in the Champ Car Series with a five-win 2006 season.

But a NASCAR opportunity came along and Allmendinger switched series, and the dream of one day cheering on their son in the "Biggest Spectacle In Racing" began to fade.

Until one bad decision cost Allmendinger the best job he ever had — and Roger Penske decided to give him a rare second chance. Allmendinger will make his Indianapolis 500 debut on Sunday, seven years after he left open-wheel racing — in a Penske Racing entry, no less. It doesn't get much bigger or better than this, and all these years later, Allmendinger has fi-

nally brought his parents back to the 500. He's posed for pictures at his car with his parents, who arrived in Indianapolis in time to see Allmendinger qualify fifth on Saturday.

"Then my Dad went and found Larry Foyt and said, 'Where's your Dad at? I want to go meet him, I haven't met him yet ... By the way, I'm AJ's dad,'" Allmendinger said. "It'll be cool to really share this with my parents, especially my Dad. For them to experience this." It's funny how life sometimes works out, and Allmendinger has learned enough in the last 10 months not to question why things happen.

Allmendinger is a better person because he stupidly accepted a strange pill from a friend who said it would help with his fatigue. Allmendinger says the pill he popped last June was Adderall — he didn't ask what it was as he was swallowing it — and it caused him to fail a random NASCAR drug test. Suspended hours before the July race at Daytona, Allmendinger was out of a job since Penske had no choice but to fire the driver when the backup "B" sample also came back positive.

He participated in NAS-

CAR's "Road to Recovery" program, and learned during that time he had to stop putting so much pressure on himself, that his happiness didn't solely depend on his results on the race track. He had Penske's support the entire time, even though the team owner had zero responsibility to a driver whose six months of employment had brought embarrassment to the great Penske organization. Allmendinger didn't ask Penske why he was standing behind him, why he brought him out to the IndyCar season finale at Fontana in September as his guest, or why he continued to think of ways to get Allmendinger back in the race car.

When The Captain called and asked Allmendinger if he had any interest in running the Indianapolis 500, the only thing Allmendinger said was 'Yes, sir. Whatever you want, sir.'

"I feel very fortunate, the racing side of it is great, but that he's cared enough to stay in contact," Allmendinger said.

"That means way more than putting me in a race car. I'm just enjoying the ride right now. I'm never going to turn down a Roger Penske race car." □

AP Source: Jordan changing team name to Hornets

STEVE REED

AP Sports Writer

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina

(AP) — Charlotte Bobcats owner Michael Jordan is changing his team's name to the Hornets, said a person familiar with the situation.

The person said Jordan will detail the timetable for the change to be completed at a news conference the Bobcats have scheduled for Tuesday.

The person spoke to The Associated Press Monday on condition of anonymity because the name change has not been publicly announced.

NBA deputy commissioner Adam Silver previously said it would take "about 18 months" for the Bobcats to change their name. That means Charlotte could once again become the Hornets by the 2014-15 season.

The Hornets resided in Charlotte from 1988-2002 before then-owner George Shinn moved the franchise to New Orleans.

The New Orleans Hornets recently changed their name to the Pelicans.

Silver said in an April interview if the Bobcats decided to change their name to the Hornets it would be "an enormously complex process and a very expensive process for the team. From everything to the uniforms, to the building, to the letterhead to the signs on the offices — all of that has to be taken into account."

While he didn't estimate how much the change would cost,

Silver did say the fact that the league owns the rights to the name Hornets could help speed up the transition process.

"I'll let (the Bobcats) speak to their own time line, but we're supportive of whatever they do," Silver said in April.

The Bobcats conducted a Harris Interactive poll in January to determine if fans were in favor of a name change.

The Bobcats have never

announced the results of those polls.

The name Bobcats originally incorporated the first name of the team's initial owner, Bob Johnson, who later sold the team to Jordan in 2010.

In February, Jordan weighed in on the idea of changing the team's name to the Hornets in his monthly "Chairman's Corner" column on the team's website, but was non-committal on his intentions.

"Judging from the emails you've sent me, the opinion seems to be very mixed," Jordan said on the team's website. "Some of you have said we should change the name and some of you have said we should not.

In fact, a few of you even suggested that we should change the name to something new altogether, and not use Bobcats or Hornets."

Jordan added that "there are a lot of factors to take into account and a lot of information to sift through. This is a decision that we will not take lightly and we will not make hastily. We want to do what we believe will be in the best interests of our organization and our fans."

The NBA board of governors is scheduled to meet in July and it's possible they could vote on the name change at that time.

Although the Hornets never experienced much playoff success in Charlotte, they were an extremely popular team among fans.

The Charlotte Hornets had a sellout streak of 364 games — a span of nearly nine seasons — before interest began to sag in the final years and Shinn relocated the team.

The Bobcats haven't been nearly as popular in part because of their struggles on the court.

They've only been to the postseason once since they began play in 2004 and finished the 2011-12 season with a 7-59 record, the worst winning percentage (.106) in NBA history. □

Woods, Garcia

Continued from Page 17

Woods' expression Monday said it all: They won't be calling a truce any time soon.

Woods was very much at ease as he looked ahead to next month's U.S. Open at Merion near Philadelphia and the AT&T National, which is run by his charitable foundation and will be played again at Congressional Country Club near Washington, D.C.

His mood was hardly surprising, given how well he's been playing. Woods already has four PGA Tour wins this year and will be the defending champion at the AT&T, although it's now been nearly five years since he last won a major. "My game is coming around, and to have won seven times the last couple years is something I'm proud of," he said. "It's not easy to do, but the swing changes with (swing

coach Sean Foley), I'm starting to see it now and starting to get the consistency." Woods has never seen Merion, and he said he's planning to play the course before tournament week to chart the greens and get an overall feel. "I don't know if it's hilly or it's flat," he said. "Is it predominantly right to left, left to right? Whether it's going to be the driver, or is it going to be the 3-wood that week or 5-wood, I don't know. These are all things that I'll get an understanding for when I first go play it." As for the AT&T National, Woods again reiterated his desire to keep the tournament at Congressional. The current deal with the club runs through next year, and the club's members — some of whom aren't happy with the annual disruptions that come with hosting a PGA Tour event — are scheduled to vote later this year whether to welcome the tournament for another three years. □



Sergio Garcia, of Spain, left, shakes hands with Tiger Woods at the conclusion of the third round of The Players championship golf tournament at TPC Sawgrass, Sunday, May 12, 2013, in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.

Associated Press

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Greening goal in 2nd OT lifts Sens over Pens

The Associated Press

OTTAWA (AP) — Colin Greening scored 7:39 into double overtime as the Ottawa Senators rallied for a 2-1 victory over the Pittsburgh Penguins that cut their series deficit to 2-1 on Sunday night. Tyler Kennedy scored with just over a minute to play in the second period to give the Penguins a 1-0 lead. That goal stood up until Alfredsson Daniel Alfredsson leveled by scoring a short-handed goal for Ottawa with 29 seconds left in regulation, just after the Senators pulled goalie Craig Anderson for an extra skater. Anderson made 49 saves, including 18 after regulation. Tomas Vokoun stopped 46 shots for Pittsburgh and took his first loss (4-1) since taking over for No. 1 Penguins goalie Marc-Andre Fleury.

Game 4 of the Eastern Conference semifinal se-



Ottawa Senators' Zack Smith, left, trips over Pittsburgh Penguins' Matt Niskanen during the first period of Game 4 of their NHL Stanley Cup Eastern Conference semifinal NHL hockey series in Ottawa on Sunday, May 19, 2013.

ries will be in Ottawa on Wednesday.

BRUINS 5, RANGERS 2

BOSTON (AP) — Johnny

Boychuk broke a deadlock midway through the second period, and Boston scored two goals in the

third to beat the New York Rangers and take a 2-0 lead in the Eastern Conference semifinal series.

Associated Press

Boychuk's third playoff goal made it 3-2 at 12:08 of the second. Brad Marchand, whose overtime goal won the opener, and Milan Lucic stretched the Bruins' lead in the final period.

Boston rookie Torey Krug scored the first goal before Ryan Callahan tied it for the Rangers in the first period. Gregory Campbell made it 2-1, and New York pulled even again on Rick Nash's goal in the second.

Games 3 and 4 of the best-of-seven series will be played in New York. Rangers goalie Henrik Lundqvist, last year's Vezina Trophy winner, had his second straight tough game after posting consecutive shutouts in Games 6 and 7 of the first round against the Washington Capitals when the Rangers faced elimination.

Tuukka Rask was solid for Boston, stopping 35 shots. □

Tejay van Garderen wins Tour of California

ANTONIO GONZALEZ

AP Sports Writer

SANTA ROSA, California (AP) — Tejay van Garderen stayed out of trouble to seal his first professional stage race title Sunday, winning the Tour of California in front of BMC Racing Team's home fans.

The American cruised through the smooth and scenic final stage from San Francisco to Santa Rosa without incident to edge Australia Michael Rogers for the overall title by 1:47. Colombian Janier Acevedo was third, 3:26 behind van Garderen.

Van Garderen completed the eight-day, 727.8-mile race that has evolved into North America's most prominent cycling event in 29 hours and 43 minutes. He held the overall lead the final three days.

Sprinter Peter Sagan pulled away to win the 80.7-mile final stage in 3 hours, 4 minutes and 7 seconds. Daniel Schorn was second and Tyler Farrar third in a crowded finish.

With a formidable field and a taxing terrain, van Garderen guided his way through California like he could be American cycling's next big star.

He stayed within striking distance in the desert heat, powered through coastal crosswinds to grab the yellow jersey in a grueling fifth stage from Santa Barbara to Avila Beach, dominated the hilly and technical time trial that followed in San Jose and maneuvered up Mount Diablo to maintain the overall lead that set the stage for a mostly ceremonial and celebratory finale in this cycling-loving city where BMC Racing is headquartered. So confident he would hold on, race organizers already had etched van Garderen's name on the trophy before the last stage. He avoided a wreck or equipment failure, enjoying the scenic sites on his road to victory.

The memorable week for van Garderen ended with a postcard-like morning ride along the bay in

San Francisco's trendy Marina District, crossing the Golden Gate Bridge and pedaling beside the sprouting spring vines in Sonoma wine country. Finally, he crossed the finish line in front of thousands of cheering residents who squeezed into Santa Rosa's quaint downtown.

"It's a big relief. It's a weight off my shoulders," van Garderen said just wrapping up his first stage race title. "Hopefully this gets the ball rolling."

Van Garderen, who finished fifth in the Tour de France last year for the highest place by an American, is ready to aim even higher. The 24-year-old, often playing second-fiddle to teammate and 2011 Tour de France winner Cadel Evans, said he hopes to be in the top three when cycling's crown jewel ends in Paris on July 21.

At least for a day, van Garderen wanted to savor his proudest professional moment yet.

He won Best Young Rider

in the 2011 Tour of California and was second at the USA Pro Challenge and fourth in Paris-Nice last year. But he had never raised the overall trophy in a pro stage race.

Van Garderen looked right at home in the Tour of California, which provided him and the BMC Racing Team a special shot to celebrate

in Santa Rosa, where the eight-year-old event had passed through previously but never ended before. For the first time in the race's eight-year history, the route went north instead of south.

Van Garderen's breakthrough performance in California will still leave him wanting more. □



Tejay Van Garderen puts on the yellow jersey after winning the Tour of California cycling race in Santa Rosa, Calif., Sunday, May 19, 2013.

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Rangers beat Tigers despite Cabrera's 3 HRs

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — David Murphy put Texas ahead with a three-run home run as the Rangers spoiled a three-homer game from Miguel Cabrera with an 11-8 victory against the Detroit Tigers on Sunday night.

Murphy's shot just over the fence in right field gave Texas an 8-7 lead and answered a bases-loaded double from Prince Fielder that put Detroit up by two in the sixth inning after the Rangers had walked Cabrera intentionally even though first base wasn't open.

Cabrera hit a three-run homer in the third and a solo shot in the fifth off Derek Holland, then went deep again in the eighth against Tanner Scheppers. Cabrera, the 2012 AL Triple Crown winner and this year's leader in average and RBIs, went 4 for 4 with 5 RBIs and has 11 homers, one off the AL lead.

Robbie Ross (2-0) pitched a scoreless seventh inning for the win, and Joe Nathan worked around a leadoff walk in the ninth for his 13th save. He has saved all 36 career chances against Detroit.

The Tigers led 4-1 after Cabrera hit a three-run homer over the Texas bullpen in right-center field in the third and added a solo shot to center off Holland, who had given up just two homers in 57-plus innings this year after setting a club record by allowing 32 homers last year.

The Rangers had wiped out that lead — and another one after Fielder's double — and were ahead 11-7 when Cabrera hit another solo homer to center off Scheppers.

Indians 6, Mariners 0



Detroit Tigers Miguel Cabrera rounds the bases, after hitting his second home run of the game, in the fifth inning of a baseball game against the Texas Rangers Sunday, May 19, 2013, in Arlington.

Associated Press

CLEVELAND (AP) — Justin Masterson struck out a season-high 11 in seven shutout innings and Michael Brantley homered and drove in four runs off Felix Hernandez as the Cleveland Indians toppled yet another former Cy Young Award winner on Sunday with a 6-0 win over the Seattle Mariners.

Brantley hit a three-run homer in the second inning off Hernandez (5-3), who failed to go at least six innings for the first time this season.

Staked to an early lead, Masterson (7-2) was dominant for the second straight start. He allowed three singles, easily outdueled Hernandez and ran his consecutive scoreless innings streak to 19. He shut out the New York Yankees 1-0 on

four hits in his previous outing.

The Indians improved to 7-1 against Cy Young recipients, knocking off Hernandez, R.A. Dickey, David Price, Roy Halladay, Cliff Lee, Bartolo Colon and Justin Verlander.

RAYS 3, ORIOLES 1

BALTIMORE (AP) — Matt Moore pitched seven innings of five-hit ball to stay unbeaten, while Luke Scott and Matt Joyce homered as the Rays beat the Orioles for a three-game sweep.

Moore (8-0) gave up one run, struck out three and walked one. The left-hander has won nine straight decisions, breaking the franchise record of eight set last year by David Price. The Rays' ninth win in 11 games put them a season-high three games over .500

(23-20).

Adam Jones had two hits, stole two bases and drove in a run for the Orioles, who have dropped five straight — all at home.

Chris Tillman (3-2) allowed three runs and five hits in six innings.

RED SOX 5, TWINS 1

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — John Lackey allowed one hit over six innings before a three-hour rain delay, and Dustin Pedroia and Will Middlebrooks homered as Boston beat Minnesota for its fifth straight win.

Fans at Target Field saw more than the Twins lose their fifth in a row.

The longest delay ever at the ballpark lasted long enough for the 1993 movie "The Sandlot" to be shown in its entirety on the videoboard. Several cast and

crew members were at the stadium to celebrate the film's 20th anniversary.

The game resumed about 80 minutes after the movie ended and many fans moved into the first eight rows behind the dugouts. Lackey (2-4) gave up one unearned run and struck out five before dark skies and heavy rain sent fans running for cover as he was warming up to start the seventh.

Lackey ended his three-game losing streak. He didn't allow a runner until Trevor Plouffe led off the fifth with a double. Plouffe later scored on shortstop Pedro Ciriaco's throwing error.

ANGELS 6, WHITE SOX 2

ANAHEIM, California (AP) — Jason Vargas scattered four hits through seven scoreless innings, while Erick Aybar and Howie Kendrick each hit two-run doubles as the Los Angeles Angels coaxed a pair of bases-loaded walks out of Jake Peavy in the fourth inning of a victory over the White Sox.

Vargas (3-3) struck out six and walked three while helping the Angels gain a split of the four-game series. Peavy (5-2) gave up four runs, four hits and five walks over six innings.

Alex Rios drove in Chicago's first run with an eighth-inning double against Dane De La Rosa. It extended Rios' hitting streak to 14 games, eclipsing his previous best in 2006 with Toronto.

ATHLETICS 4, ROYALS 3

OAKLAND, California (AP) — Yoenis Cespedes hit a leadoff home run in the eighth inning as the Athletics beat the Royals to complete a three-game sweep. □

Measles surges in UK years after flawed research

MARIA CHENG
AP Medical Writer

LONDON (AP) — More than a decade ago, British parents refused to give measles shots to at least a million children because of now discredited research that linked the vaccine to autism. Now, health officials are scrambling to catch up and stop a growing epidemic of the contagious disease.

This year, the U.K. has had more than 1,200 cases of measles, after a record number of nearly 2,000 cases last year. The country once recorded only several dozen cases every year. It now ranks second in Europe, behind only Romania.

Last month, emergency vaccination clinics were held every weekend in Wales, the epicenter of the outbreak. Immunization drives have also started elsewhere in the country, with officials aiming to reach 1 million children aged 10 to 16.

"This is the legacy of the Wakefield scare," said Dr. David Elliman, spokesman for the Royal College

of Paediatrics and Child Health, referring to a paper published in 1998 by Andrew Wakefield and colleagues that is widely rejected by scientists.

That work suggested a link between autism and the combined childhood vaccine for measles, mumps and rubella, called the MMR. Several large scientific studies failed to find any connection, the theory was rejected by at least a dozen major U.K. medical groups and the paper was eventually retracted by the journal that published it.

Britain's top medical board stripped Wakefield of the right to practice medicine in the U.K., ruling that he and two of his colleagues showed a "callous disregard" for the children in the study, subjecting them to unnecessary, invasive tests. As part of his research, Wakefield took blood samples from children at his son's birthday party, paying them about 5 pounds each (\$7.60), and later joked about the incident.

Still, MMR immunization



Ellen Christensen poses with her six-week-old son Remy at the Ann Taylor Children Centre in east London. More than a decade ago, British parents refused to give measles shots to at least a million children because of a vaccine scare that raised the specter of autism. Now, health officials are scrambling to catch up and stop a growing epidemic of the contagious disease.

(AP Photo/Matt Dunham)

rates plummeted across the U.K. as fearful parents abandoned the vaccine — from rates over 90 percent to 54 percent. Wakefield has won support from parents suspicious of vaccines, including Hollywood

celebrities like Jenny McCarthy, who has an autistic son.

Nearly 15 years later, the rumors about MMR are still having an impact. Now there's "this group of older children who have never

been immunized who are a large pool of infections," Elliman said.

The majority of those getting sick in the U.K. — including a significant number of older children and teens — had never been vaccinated. Almost 20 of the more than 100 seriously ill children have been hospitalized and 15 have suffered complications including pneumonia and meningitis. One adult with measles has died, though it's unclear if it was the disease that killed him.

The first measles vaccines were introduced in the 1960s, which dramatically cut cases of the rash-causing illness. Since 2001, measles deaths have dropped by about 70 percent worldwide; Cambodia recently marked more than a year without a single case.

Globally, though, measles is still one of the leading causes of death in children under 5 and kills more than 150,000 people every year, mostly in developing countries.

Measles is highly contagious and is spread by coughing, sneezing and close personal contact with infected people; symptoms include a fever, cough, and a rash on the face.

Across the U.K., about 90 percent of children under 5 are vaccinated against measles and have received the necessary two doses of the vaccine. But among children now aged 10 to 16, the vaccination rate is slightly below 50 percent in some regions.

To stop measles outbreaks, more than 95 percent of children need to be fully immunized. In some parts of the U.K., the rate is still below 80 percent.

Unlike in the United States, where most states require children to be vaccinated against measles before starting school, no such regulations exist in Britain. Parents are advised to have their children immunized, but Britain's Department of Health said it had no plans to consider introducing mandatory vaccination. □

Navajos confront an increase in new HIV infections

DAN FROSCH
© 2013 New York Times

GALLUP, N.M. — A surge in HIV infections on the Navajo Reservation has doctors and public health workers increasingly alarmed that the virus that causes AIDS has resurfaced with renewed intensity in this impoverished region.

A report released last month by the federal Indian Health Service found there were 47 new diagnoses of human immunodeficiency virus on the reservation in 2012, up 20 percent from 2011. Since 1999, new HIV cases among Navajo are up nearly fivefold, the report found.

"I'm scared to death," said Dr. Jonathan Iralu, an infectious disease specialist who runs an HIV clinic in this dusty town on the edge of Navajo land, not far from the Arizona border. "The numbers show



One of the posters placed around the Gallup Indian Medical Center to heighten HIV awareness in Gallup, N.M., May 14, 2013.
(Mark Holm/The New York Times)

there is a dangerous rise, and the time to act is now, before it's too late."

As with other groups in the United States, infection rates on the reservation leveled off and deaths dropped, with help from new treatments and outreach seeking to cut

through the stigma about AIDS among tribal members. But over the past few years, the HIV numbers on Navajo land have crept up. That increase, Iralu said, can be partly attributed to the infection being detected earlier, thanks to years of HIV education pro-

grams and more routine screening.

And though the numbers are still comparatively low — there are about 200 Navajo patients tracked by area clinics — the challenges of prevention are amplified in a place where sex is still rarely discussed publicly and infection is often hidden from loved ones. Melvin Harrison, executive director of the Navajo AIDS Network, which provides services for tribal members with HIV, said that of the 65 people his group treats, a majority have not told family or friends.

"That's how big the stigma is here," he said. "They are afraid of rejection."

The intimacy of reservation life, where a hospital receptionist might be a relative or a nurse a close friend, can be a barrier to swift treatment and prevention. □

Yahoo takes big leap with \$1.1B deal for Tumblr

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Yahoo's CEO is making a \$1.1 billion bet on the online blogging forum Tumblr as Marissa Mayer tries to make a former Internet icon cool again.

The deal announced Monday is Mayer's boldest move since she left Google 10 months ago to lead Yahoo's latest comeback attempt. It marks Yahoo's most expensive acquisition since it bought online search engine Overture a decade ago for \$1.3 billion in cash and stock.

Mayer told analysts that she is "making a sincere promise to not screw it up." Yahoo is paying mostly cash for Tumblr, dipping into what remains of a \$7.6 billion windfall reaped last year from selling about half of its stake in Chinese Internet company Alibaba Holdings Group. Taking over Tumblr will devour about one-fifth of the \$5.4 billion in cash that Yahoo had in its accounts at the end of March.

Mayer praised Tumblr as a fount of creativity that attracts 300 million visitors each month. David Karp, a 26-year-old high school dropout who started Tumblr six years ago, will remain in control of the service in an effort to retain the same "irreverence, wit and commitment to empower creators," Yahoo said.

"David Karp is one of the most inspiring, insightful entrepreneurs that I have ever met," said Mayer, who worked closely with Google co-founders Larry Page and Sergey Brin during her time at the company.

Tumblr will fill Yahoo's gaping void in the realm of social media. Yahoo so far has had to connect its services to Facebook and Twitter to give its users a social networking outlet.

Tumblr, which will remain based in New York, has about 175 employees, while Yahoo has 11,300. In his statement, Karp predicted Yahoo would help Tumblr grow even faster as he strives "to make the



Yahoo CEO Marissa Mayer, and Tumblr Chief Executive David Karp speak during a news conference Monday, May 20, 2013, in New York. Yahoo edged up 31 cents, or 1.2 percent, to \$26.83 after the Internet company said it was buying online blogging forum Tumblr for \$1.1 billion.

Associated Press

Internet the ultimate creative canvas."

The deal is expected to close during the second half of this year.

Tumblr will now play a pivotal role in Mayer's attempt to reshape Yahoo after her highly successful 13-year career at Google, which she helped surpass Yahoo as the Internet's most influential company. Since coming to Yahoo, Mayer has concentrated on redesigning services and bringing in more engineering talent through a series of small acquisitions that have collectively cost less than \$50 million.

Yahoo will still focus on mostly small deals, Mayer said, but "Tumblr is a game changer," she assured analysts.

As popular as Tumblr has become, the service remains unprofitable. That is likely to raise questions about whether Yahoo paid too much in Mayer's zeal to gain control over a hot service. Facebook Inc. faced similar doubts last year when it bought Instagram, a rapidly growing photo sharing site. Facebook initially agreed to pay \$1 billion in stock for In-

The deal could backfire, though, if Yahoo's effort to make more money alienates a Tumblr user base that so far has been subjected to hardly any advertising during the service's six-year history.

Mayer said Yahoo will work with Tumblr to create ads that "are tasteful and seamless." The company expects Tumblr to start increasing Yahoo's revenue next year.

Mayer is betting that Tumblr will provide Yahoo with a captivating hook to reel in more traffic and advertisers on smartphones and tablet computers. That rapidly growing market is expected to become even more important during the next decade.

More than half of Tumblr's users connect to the service through the mobile app.

Tumblr also runs one of the world's busiest websites, featuring 75 million daily posts about everything from politics to pets. Advertising has been a missing ingredient so far as Tumblr, like many online services in

their early stages, focused on building a loyal audience before turning its attention to making money. The deal also has some symbolic significance for Yahoo, an 18-year-old company that had spent much of the past decade drifting under different management teams while Google Inc. overtook it in size and influence. At the same time, newcomers such as Facebook Inc. and Twitter began to command attention.

Yahoo flirted with potential acquisitions of Google and Facebook in those two companies' early days, only to have the talks unravel because Yahoo wasn't prepared to pay asking prices that were far below the current market values of Google (\$300 billion) and Facebook (\$63 billion). □

Yahoo also considered buying YouTube in 2006, only to be outbid by Google, which snapped up the world's leading online video service for \$1.76 billion — a price that now looks like a bargain. □

At a glance: comparing Yahoo and Tumblr

The Associated Press

Yahoo is paying \$1.1 billion to buy the popular blogging site Tumblr.

It's part of Yahoo's comeback efforts, after years in a financial funk. Tumblr will give Yahoo more opportunities to sell advertising. Here's how the two companies compare:

— TUMBLR

FOUNDED: February 2007 by software consultant David Karp and Web developer Marco Arment.

HEADQUARTERS: New York

LEADERSHIP: Founder David Karp, 26, is CEO. He owns a 25 percent stake in the company.

EMPLOYEES: 175

FINANCIALS: Tumblr's 2012 revenue was \$13 million. The company's net worth was estimated by Forbes at \$800 million in 2011. □

SERVICES: Blogging services where people share everything from snaps of their pets to videos, and stories from Dadaab, a Kenyan refugee camp.

— YAHOO

FOUNDED: 1994 by Stanford Ph.D. candidates David Filo and Jerry Yang

HEADQUARTERS: Sunnyvale, California.

LEADERSHIP: Marissa Mayer was lured from Google in July to become Yahoo's fifth CEO in as many years.

EMPLOYEES: 11,300

FINANCIALS:

Yahoo's 2012 revenue was \$5 billion, or \$4.5 billion after subtracting advertising commission. It has a market valuation of \$28.8 billion.

SERVICES: A wide range of services, including search, email, photo sharing and news. □

Small company stocks take the limelight on Wall Street

STEVE ROTHWELL
AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Small-company stocks were a bright spot in a slow and choppy start to the week for Wall Street.

The Russell 2000, an index of small-company stocks, climbed above 1,000 points for the first time and ended higher Monday, even as the Dow Jones industrial average, the Standard & Poor's 500 index and the Nasdaq composite index all edged lower.

Small stocks are doing well because they are more focused on the U.S., which is recovering, and are less exposed to recession-plagued Europe than the large international companies that make up the Dow and the S&P 500 index.

The gains for the smaller companies are encouraging for the broader stock market because they show that investors are becoming more comfortable about the economy and investing in riskier assets, said Rob Lutts, Chief Investment Officer at Cabot Money Management.

Small-company stocks are considered riskier than the stocks of well-established, large companies like IBM or Coca-Cola. That's because small companies are often relatively young and tend to have less diversified businesses than larger ones, making them more susceptible to swings in de-

mand from their customers. There are also fewer buyers and sellers for them, which can make the stocks harder to off-load if prices start to fall.

"Having smaller stocks hit new highs means that the rally is broad," Lutts said. "It gives us a little more confidence that it's a good, sustainable rally that can hold together for a while."

The Russell 2000 ended the day 1.70 points, or 0.2 percent, higher at 997.98. The index climbed as high as 1001.50 at midday. The index is 17.5 percent higher for the year, a better performance than better-known market barometers like the Dow and S&P.

Major indexes fluctuated between small gains and losses for most of Monday. On Friday they ended at record levels after four straight weeks of gains.

The Dow closed down 19.12 points, or 0.1 percent, at 15,335.28, paring its gain for the year to 17 percent. The S&P 500 index fell 1.18 points, or 0.1 percent, to 1,666.29. Its advance for the year now stands at 16.8 percent.

Investors are focusing on the Federal Reserve this week and looking for clues about what it plans to do next with its economic stimulus program. On Wednesday Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke will appear before Congress and the central bank will release minutes

of its most recent policy meeting.

The Fed is buying \$85 billion of bonds every month to keep long-term interest rates low. That has encouraged investors to put money into stocks instead of bonds. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note has

sors. As a consequence, Wren said, stocks are likely to continue to rise.

"At some point, we will see some sort of a pullback, but it doesn't seem like it's going to be right now," said Wren. "In the near term we're probably going to trade a little bit higher."

funds since the start of the year, according to data from the Investment Company Institute. Investors have pulled money out of mutual funds every year since the beginning of the financial crisis in 2007.

"This market rally still has legs, partly because we've



A man under an umbrella walks past an electronic stock board of a securities firm in Tokyo Monday, May 20, 2013. Japan's Nikkei 225 index jumped 1.4 percent to 15,352.84 as evidence of a steady economic recovery in the U.S. helped push Asian stock markets higher Monday.

(AP Photo/Koji Sasahara)

been below 2 percent almost continually since April 12. That's less than many large companies pay in dividends.

Policy makers are unlikely to cut back on stimulus just yet since U.S. economic growth is likely to slow in the second quarter, said Scott

Wren, a senior equity strategist at Wells Fargo Advি

The stock market rally is also being underpinned by investors moving back into stocks, reversing years of outflows of funds from equity markets, said Jerry Braakman, chief investment officer at First American Trust.

Investors have invested about net \$17 billion into domestic stock mutual

seen huge retail inflows back into equities," Braakman said. "It's hard to beat the money flow."

In commodities trading, the price of crude oil rose 69 cents, or 0.7 percent, to \$96.71 a barrel.

The price of gold rose for the first day in eight as the dollar fell. The precious metal climbed \$19.40, or 1.4 percent, to \$1,384. Gold has slumped this month as its attraction as an alternative investment fades as the dollar appreciates.

The U.S. currency is strengthening because investors believe the U.S. economy is in better shape than the Japanese or European economies.

The dollar's rally paused on Monday, though, and the U.S. currency fell against the euro and the yen. The dollar index also dropped, after climbing to its highest level in close to three years Friday.

In U.S. government bond trading, the yield on the 10-year Treasury note rose to 1.97 percent from 1.93 percent. □

Royalty Pharma increases bid for drugmaker Elan

NEW YORK (AP) — Royalty Pharma has raised its offer to buy Elan on the condition that shareholders reject the Irish drugmaker's push to refocus its business through a string of recently announced deals, including two new deals unveiled Monday.

Royalty said Monday it will pay \$12.50 in cash for each share of Elan Corp. PLC. That adds up to a total value of about \$7.5 billion.

Royalty had offered in February to buy Elan for \$11 per share and later raised that bid to \$11.25 per share.

Elan has said the \$11.25 bid

was much too low. It said Monday its board will assess Royal Pharma's latest announcement and, in the meantime, Elan shareholders should take no action. Royalty is a privately held New York company that buys royalty interests in drugs and late-stage drug candidates.

Elan earlier on Monday announced that it planned to pay about \$338 million for a privately held, Austrian drug developer and at least \$110 million for stakes in two other companies. The company also said last week it will pay \$1 billion for

the right to future royalties from four respiratory treatments being developed by Theravance Inc. and GlaxoSmithKline.

Last month, Elan closed a deal to sell its interest in the multiple sclerosis treatment Tysabri to Biogen Idec Inc., its former partner on the blockbuster drug, for \$3.25 billion in cash and recurring royalty payments.

Royalty Pharma said in a statement that Elan "dramatically overpaid" for the Theravance deal. It also said that deal "was pursued in haste and without critical confidential infor-

mation which could significantly impair the value of the asset."

The company added that it suspects the same may be true of the deals Elan announced Monday. It said its increased offer is conditional on shareholders voting against the Theravance deal and the other transactions.

U.S.-traded shares of Elan climbed 3.5 percent, or 41 cents, to \$12.08 Monday afternoon, while broader trading indexes fell slightly. That put the stock up 18 percent since the start of the year. □



This photo provided by Actavis shows the company's logo. Actavis is buying Warner Chilcott in an all-stock deal valued at about \$8.5 billion. (AP Photo/Actavis)

In \$8.5B deal: Actavis buying Warner Chilcott

M. CHAPMAN

TOM MURPHY

AP Business Writers

NEW YORK (AP) — Actavis is buying Warner Chilcott in an all-stock deal valued at about \$8.5 billion that would create the third-biggest specialty pharmaceutical company in the U.S. market.

The announcement Monday comes after the companies said earlier this month that they were in talks about a possible pairing of one of the world's largest generic drugmakers, Actavis Inc., with an Irish company that has a portfolio of established, branded drugs.

The combined company will be incorporated in Ireland, and analysts say that country's lower tax rate is a key to making the deal work. Actavis said it expects about \$400 million in after-tax savings and cost cuts from the combination, counting the lower tax rate.

Generic drugmakers like Parsippany, New Jersey-based Actavis have benefited the past couple years from the expiration of patents protecting top-selling drugs like the cholesterol fighter Lipitor. But many companies are competing for that revenue source, and analysts expect it to start drying up over the next few years.

The Warner Chilcott PLC deal will give Actavis an earnings jolt starting next year, Susquehanna Financial Group analyst Andrew Finkelstein said in a research note. But he added that he expects revenue from Warner Chilcott's product portfolio to decline modestly.

Morningstar analyst Michael Waterhouse said Warner Chilcott's pipeline of products under development also is weak, and he thought both companies were a bit overvalued heading into the deal.

"I would say we're probably not as enthusiastic as the market has been (about the acquisition)," Waterhouse said.

Actavis was formed last fall through a \$5.6 billion combination of generic drugmaker Watson Pharmaceuticals of New Jersey and Actavis of Switzerland. It sells inexpensive generic versions of Lipitor, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder drugs Adderall XR and Concerta, Lovenox for preventing or breaking up dangerous blood clots and many other products. Actavis also has a U.S. pharmaceutical distribution business called Anda.

Warner Chilcott's products include the ulcerative colitis treatment Asacol, which is its top-selling drug, and Delzicol, another ulcerative colitis medication approved in February. Its revenue has been hurt the past couple years in part because low-cost generic versions of its osteoporosis drug Actonel went on sale in Western Europe and Canada in 2010, and U.S. sales have slipped as well.

In the deal announced Monday, Warner Chilcott shareholders will receive 0.160 shares of the new company for each share they own. This equals \$20.08 per share, which is a 34 percent premium to the stock's closing price on May 9, the day before the companies said they were talking about a deal. □

Ryanair flies high, reports record profits

SHAWN POGATCHNIK

Associated Press

DUBLIN (AP) — Ryanair reported record profits Monday as Europe's largest budget airline expanded its route network across the continent and into North Africa. Ryanair's share price also surged to an all-time high after the Dublin-based carrier predicted it would enjoy similar, if not better, earnings in the coming year. The company's net profit in the 12 months through March rose 13 percent to 569.3 million euros (\$729 million), eclipsing last year's record. The airline, famous for its extra charges on everything from boarding cards to assigned

seats, has thrived against higher-cost rivals amid recession and the eurozone debt crisis. Sales rose 13 percent to 4.9 billion euros for the fiscal year ending in March. This reflects a 6 percent rise in average ticket prices and 217 new routes, taking Ryanair's network to more than 1,600. During the year, Ryanair opened up new bases in Croatia, Greece, Morocco, the Netherlands and Poland. Ryanair carried 79.3 million passengers, up 5 percent, and continued to sell on average 82 percent of its seats. It expects to carry 81.5 million customers in the 2013-14 fiscal year. Shares in Ryanair surged

nearly 10 percent on the better-than-expected profits, and closed the day up 7 percent at 6.77 euros. Ryanair shares a year ago were trading near 4 euros. Analysts welcomed confirmation that Ryanair has secured 90 percent of its 2013-14 fuel needs at an average cost of \$98 per barrel, close to the current market price.

Fuel represents Ryanair's biggest expense and, if not hedged against, is its most unpredictable threat to future profitability. Ryanair said its fuel costs rose 18 percent in 2012-13 to 1.89 billion euros, or 45 percent of total company expenses. □



A Ryanair jet takes flight. Ryanair reported record profits Monday as Europe's largest budget airline expanded its route network across the continent and into North Africa. (Handout Photo)

Gold breaks a losing streak; metals rise

The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The price of gold rose Monday for the first time in nearly two weeks.

Gold for June delivery rose \$19.40 to settle at \$1,384.10 an ounce Monday, an increase of 1.4 percent. It was the first gain since May 8. The price of gold has been falling since last autumn. Its appeal as an alternative investment faded as the U.S. dollar rose. Subdued inflation and worries that Cyprus might sell some of its gold reserves to support its banks have also given traders reasons to sell gold.

The price of gold has fallen

23 percent since Oct. 4, when it closed at \$1,796.50 an ounce. Silver, copper, platinum and palladium also rose Monday.

Copper for July delivery rose 3.7 cents, or 1.1 percent, to \$3.36 a pound, while silver for July delivery gained 23 cents, or 1 percent, to \$22.58.

Platinum for July delivery rose \$16.60, or 1.1 percent, to \$1,484.60 an ounce. Palladium for June delivery rose \$10.50 to \$750.75 an ounce, a gain of 1.4 percent.

In the market for grains and other crops, wheat and soybeans rose, while corn fell.

Wheat for July delivery rose 2 cents to \$6.8525 a bushel. Corn for July delivery fell 3.25 cents to \$6.4950 a bushel. Soybeans for the same month rose 16 cents to \$14.645 a bushel.

In the oil and gas market, benchmark oil for June delivery gained 69 cents to close at \$96.71 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

In other energy futures trading on Nymex:

— Wholesale gasoline was flat at \$2.91 a gallon.

— Heating oil rose 1 cent to \$2.95 a gallon.

— Natural gas gained 4 cents to \$4.09 per 1,000 cubic feet. □

Mutts



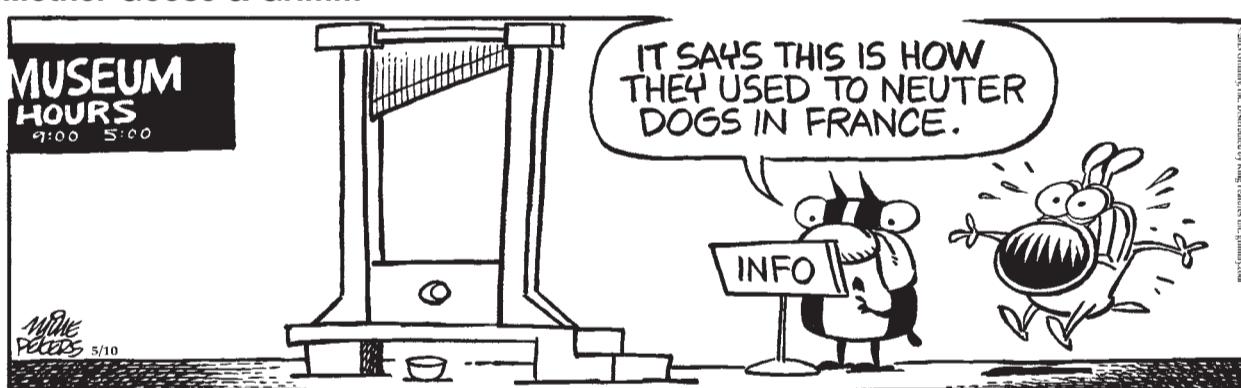
6 Chix



Blondie



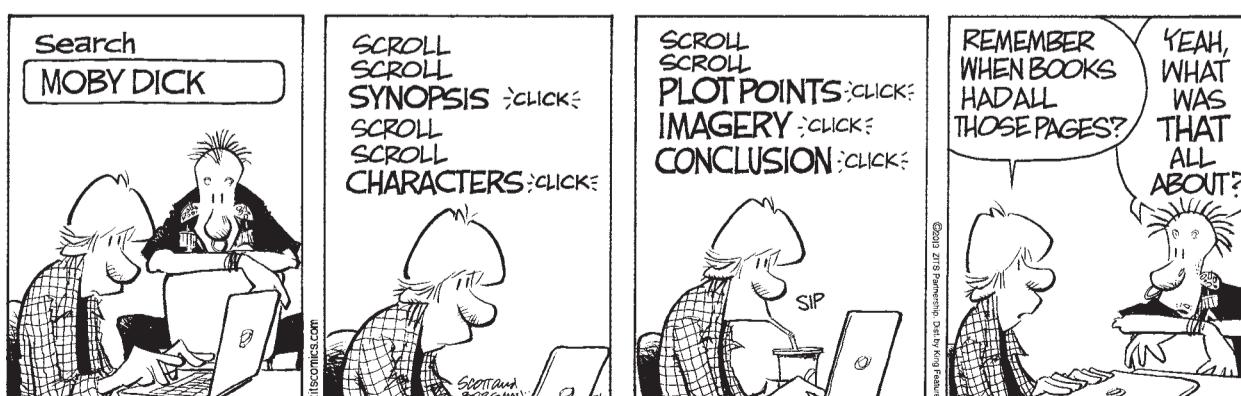
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

6						7			3
	8						2		
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2							7		
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Difficulty Level ★★★★

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5/10

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

8	7	3	2	5	6	1	4	9
1	4	9	7	8	3	5	6	2
6	5	2	4	9	1	3	8	7
3	6	8	9	7	5	2	1	4
4	9	7	1	3	2	8	5	6
5	2	1	6	4	8	7	9	3
9	8	4	5	2	7	6	3	1
2	3	6	8	1	4	9	7	5
7	1	5	3	6	9	4	2	8

Yesterday's puzzle answer

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15				16				
17					18				19				
20			21			22	23						
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30			31	32		33		34	35	36			
37		38	39			40	41						
42			43	44		45	46						
51	52	53			54				55	56	57	58	59
60			61	62		63			64	65	66		
67			68		69								

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

5/10/13

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

M	A	T	E	S	H	O	A	L	A	B	U	T
E	R	I	N	L	I	N	G	O	C	P	Y	
S	E	N	D	A	L	L	E	G	A	L	E	
H	A	S	A	L	L	Y	M	I	L	N	E	
	E	N	J	O	Y		T	E	N	T		
A	G	L	E	A	M		H	I	N	G		
L	A	T	E	R	C	R	I	E	V	E		
P	L	O	D	H	O	P	E	L	A	N		
S	E	W	H	A	R	M	S	S	O	L		
S	N	O	O	Z	O	O	Z	O	Y	O		
P	A	Y										
A	S	T	I	R								
C	H	A	N	D	E	L	I	E	R	R		
N	O	M	E	L	E	G	A	L	H	O		
E	W	E	S	M	I	S	T	Y	O	N		

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5/10/13

3 Frank; candid
4 Steamer's pot
5 Neatest
6 Island around a lagoon
7 Tim Daly's sis
8 for; select
9 Humans
10 Artists' trays
11 Merriment
12 Cargo handler, at times
13 Madrid mister
14 with; back in an argument
15 Iron alloy
16 Microsoft's Bill
17 Little tyke
18 Blanket
19 Cruise ships
20 Merriment
21 Approximately
22 Item on a playground
23 Madrid mister
24 Dismal; depressing
25 Poet Teasdale
26 Armada
27 Beef or turkey
28 Evergreen tree
29 Priest's table
30 African nation
31 Giggle's sound
32 Sports network
33 Fable teller
34 Come to shore
35 Jackson and Gosselin
36 Web site access code
37 Come to shore
38 Frank; candid
39 Artist's trays
40 Peddles
41 Steamer's pot
42 Neatest
43 Merriment
44 Iron alloy
45 Microsoft's Bill
46 Little tyke
47 Blanket
48 Cruise ships
49 Merriment
50 Artist's trays
51 Giggle's sound
52 Sports network
53 Fable teller
54 Puts on weight
55 Farm machine
56 Afternoon naps
57 "The Buckeye State"
58 Derriere
59 Declare untrue
60 Peddles
61 Steamer's pot
62 Art Linkletter's "People Funny"

Trip becomes an obstacle course, and a lesson

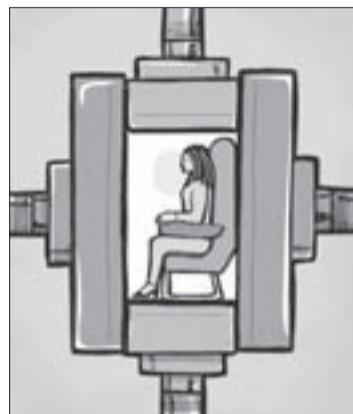
JOE SHARKEY

© 2013 New York Times

"I have really good travel karma," Carol Margolis said. "Well, almost all the time." Things began going wrong for her at the start of a recent three-day whirlwind trip from a small city in the south of Norway, where she was on a consulting job, to a midsize city in Colorado, where she had an important meeting. Margolis is one of those resilient business travelers who know the drill: Always have a Plan B. And chill, knowing that some things go wrong and you simply manage. But still, this was asking a lot. "Well," she said, "between the five-hour nighttime bus ride and then walking in on someone else's hotel room in Oslo, then having to sit in 36F in coach despite a business-class ticket, then having to spend an extra \$6,000 on a new ticket to get back to Norway because they didn't have my reservation on the return flight, and then my bag not showing up, and having to buy cheap shoes that didn't fit ... " Whoa, there. This has all of the makings of a lesson in coping, just as the peak summer travel season approaches. Fares and fees are rising, and airplanes are impossibly crowded. The trade group Airlines for America says that airlines in the United States will carry about 209 million passengers from June through August -- 27 million on international flights, the most ever -- even though the overall numbers of flights and seats are down.

(Brian Taylor/The New York Times)

ary but, with the change in flights and planes, no first-class seat. "I see that I'm in Seat 36F, way in the back in coach, a row from the toilet," she said. "I'm like, what the heck?" Protests were unavailing. Waiting for a later flight was not an option because of her



The trade group Airlines for America says that airlines in the United States will carry about 209 million passengers from June through August -- 27 million on international flights, the most ever -- even though the overall numbers of flights and seats are down.

(Brian Taylor/The New York Times)

tight schedule. Off to Denver she went, crammed in a window seat. "The guy next to me is sleeping; the guy in front of me has his seat all the way back, so I can't use my laptop. I could barely move. I'm

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Tel: 587-0002

Sea turtle comeback in a corner of the Caribbean

DAVID McFADDEN

Associated Press

GRANDE RIVIERE, Trinidad

(AP) — Giant leatherback turtles, some weighing half as much as a small car, drag themselves out of the ocean and up the sloping shore on the northeastern coast of Trinidad while villagers await wearing dimmed headlamps in the dark. Their black carapaces glistening, the turtles inch along the moonlit beach, using their powerful front flippers to move their bulky frames onto the sand.

In years past, poachers from Grande Riviere and nearby towns would ransack the turtles' buried eggs and hack the critically threatened reptiles to death with machetes to sell their meat in the market. Now, the turtles are the focus of a thriving tourist trade, with people so devoted to them that they shoo birds away when the turtles first start out as tiny hatchlings scurrying to sea. The number of leatherbacks on this tropical beach has rebounded in spectacular fashion, with some 500 females nesting each night during the peak season in May and June, along the 800-meter-long (875-yard) beach. Researchers now consider the beach at Grand Riviere, alongside a river that flows into the Atlantic, the most densely nested site for leatherbacks in the world. "It's sometimes hard remembering that leatherbacks are actually endangered," said tour guide Nicholas Alexander as he watched more emerge from the surf.

With instincts honed over 100 million years, these mighty leatherbacks have migrated from cold North

Atlantic waters in Canada and northern Europe to nest. The air-breathing reptiles can dive to ocean depths of more than 4,000 feet (1,200 meters) and remain underwater for an hour. They are bigger, stronger, and tolerate colder temperatures than any other marine turtle. On a recent night, the protected beach was so busy that female leatherback turtles bumped into each other as they trudged up the sloping beach. Occasionally grunting from the effort, the big reptiles swept away powdery sand with their front flippers and then painstakingly dug holes with their rear flippers, laying dozens of white eggs before heading back to the ocean. These same females will be back in about 10 days to deposit more eggs.

The resurgence of leatherbacks in Trinidad is touted by many as a major achievement, with more than half of all adult leatherbacks on the planet having been lost since 1980, mostly in the Eastern Pacific and Asia.

When local conservation efforts started here in the early 1990s, locals say a maximum of 30 turtles emerged from the surf overnight during the peak of the six-month nesting season. Now, at Grande Riviere and in the eastern community of Matura, where another major leatherback colony has grown, locals say more than 700 of the turtles appear overnight at the very height of the season, in May and June.

Flourishing turtle tourism is providing good livelihoods for people in formerly dead-end farming towns, with the Trinidad-based



In this May 2, 2013 photo, a leatherback turtle uses her rear flippers to bury her eggs in the sand at daybreak on a narrow strip of beach in Grande Riviere, Trinidad. Experts have even long estimated that just 1 in 1,000 eggs will result in an adult turtle. The number of leatherbacks on this tropical beach has rebounded in spectacular fashion. Researchers now consider the beach at Grand Riviere, alongside a river that flows into the Atlantic, the most densely nested site for the leatherbacks in the world.

Associated Press

group Turtle Village Trust saying it brings in some \$8.2 million annually. The inflow of visitors, both domestic and foreign, to Trinidad's northeast coast jumped from 6,500 in 2000 to over 60,000 in 2012. Officials with the U.S.-based Sea Turtle Conservancy say Trinidad is now likely the world's leading tourist destination for people to see leatherbacks.

Hopes are high that tourism boom can help the creatures survive a slew of pressures. In a 2009 global study on the economics of marine turtle tourism, researchers from the environmental group World Wildlife Fund found turtle tourism earned nearly three times as much money as the sale of turtle meat, leather and eggs.

While Trinidad supports some 80 percent of total

some 515 leatherback nests.

Meanwhile, the Eastern Pacific leatherback population has collapsed to some 1,700 females, according to Aimee Leslie, marine turtle manager with the World Wildlife Fund.

The number of Atlantic leatherback has likely grown due to a variety of factors such as nesting beach protections, modifications of fishing gear in some places and increased public awareness, according to Jeanette Wyneken, a sea turtle expert at Florida Atlantic University. Leatherbacks may have also encountered growing stocks of the food they depend upon, mostly jellyfish and gelatinous sea creatures called salps.

Len Peters, a founding member of the Grande Riviere Nature Tour Guide Association, which patrols and manages the Trinidadian village's nesting beach, said local conservation hasn't come easy. When he started out as a 23-year-old volunteer in the early 1990s, protecting turtles was rough, sometimes intimidating work. His group would physically drag people off the beach if they were bothering leatherbacks.

"That kind of approach wasn't really helping. People were becoming very aggressive toward us, called us the turtle police," Peters said. "Now, the villagers here feel proud knowing that people come from all over the world to see the turtles. On a whole, the community has really embraced the opportunities these turtles have brought to them."

But for local fishermen, the six-month turtle nesting season from March through August is a hardship to endure.

Ervan James, a veteran fishermen from Grande Riviere, recognizes turtle tourism has been a boon for his village, but he and other fishermen are calling for the government to compensate them for not casting wide gill nets during the turtles' nesting season. □

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Publicist: Founding member of The Doors dies at 74

CHRIS TALBOTT

AP Music Writer

Ray Manzarek, the keyboardist and founding member of The Doors who had a dramatic impact on rock 'n' roll, has died. He was 74.

Manzarek died Monday in Rosenheim, Germany, surrounded by his family, said publicist Heidi Robinson-Fitzgerald. Robinson-Fitzgerald said his manager, Tom Vitorino, confirmed Manzarek died after being stricken by bile duct cancer.

Manzarek founded The Doors after meeting then-poet Jim Morrison in California.

The band went on to become one of the most successful rock 'n' roll acts to emerge from the 1960s and continues to resonate with fans decades after Morrison's death in 1971.

Manzarek continued to remain active in music.

He briefly tried to hold the band together by serving as vocalist, but eventually the group fell apart. He played in other bands over the years, produced other acts, became an author and worked on films.

The Doors were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Manzarek is among the most notable keyboard players in rock history, playing it as a lead instrument at a time when the guitar often dominated. The sound added a distinct end-times flavor to Morrison's often out-there persona.

The group is best known for hits like "Break On Through to the Other Side," "The End" and "Light My Fire" and came to symbolize the decadence of Los Angeles as the counterculture grew in the U.S.

Morrison and Manzarek met at UCLA film school and ran into each other a few

months after graduation, Manzarek recounted in a 1967 interview with Billboard.

Outwardly, the two seemed very different. The strikingly tall, dark and handsome Morrison looked the part of rock star, while Manzarek, with glasses, retained a more professional look. But they were kindred spirits, as Manzarek discovered when Morrison read him the lyrics for a song



In this Aug. 16, 2012 file photo, Ray Manzarek of The Doors performs at the Sunset Strip Music Festival launch party celebrating The Doors at the House of Blues in West Hollywood, Calif. Associated Press

called "Moonlight Drive." "I'd never heard lyrics to a rock song like that before," Manzarek said. "We talked a while before we decided to get a group together and make a million dollars."

The band would make far more than that. The Doors, which also included guitarist Robby Krieger and

drummer John Densmore, has sold more than 100 million albums. Their music has been featured prominently in movies and holds an oft-debated place in rock history.

Manzarek is survived by his wife, Dorothy, his son Pablo and two brothers, Rick and James. Funeral arrangements are pending. □

Archie Comics' gay kiss a poke at real controversy

MATT MOORE

Associated Press

It's just a quick kiss, but it's a long step forward for Archie Comics' only openly gay character Kevin Keller. The Riverdale teen finds his life turned upside down after locking lips with his boyfriend, Devon, in Pop Tate's diner, drawing the ire of at least one disapproving Riverdale mom.

The woman "gets very offended and kind of pitches a bit of a fit," said Dan Parent, who writes and draws the issue, "Kevin Keller" No. 10 that is released Aug. 7. "Kevin is kind of used to that, but Veronica records the whole thing and of course uploads it to the Riverdale equivalent of YouTube and that starts a bit of a debate," said Parent. For Archie Comics it's a bit of art imitating life. Parent said he wrote the story after efforts to remove a comic magazine showing Keller getting married drew complaints. One

society, asked Toys R Us not to display "Life With Archie" No. 16 near its checkout aisles. Toys R Us did not, and the issue went on to sell out its print run.

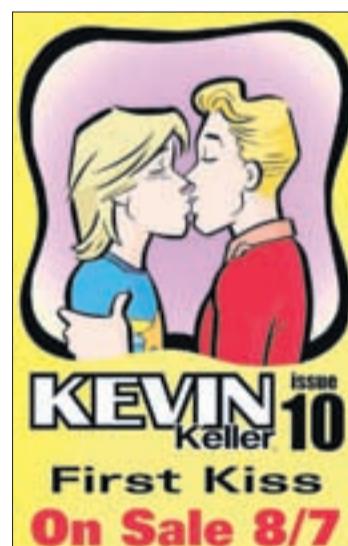
Parent called the new story a "playful poke" at the protest.

Keller debuted in "Veronica" No. 202 in September 2010. It resulted in Archie Comics' first-ever second printing. It was quickly followed by a four-issue miniseries and the current monthly title.

Publisher and co-CEO Jon Goldwater said the fact that any kiss is being shown in the pages of an Archie Comics book is a step in and of itself.

"There aren't that many on-panel kisses in the pages of Archie, but you often see the lipstick on Archie's face afterward," he said. Goldwater said Keller's character has let the company weave in contemporary issues to its imaginary world.

"We certainly pride ourselves on being contem-



This comic book image released by Archie Comics shows issue 10 of "Kevin Keller" featuring openly-gay character Kevin Keller, right, kissing his boyfriend Devon. The issue will go on sale on Aug. 7.

Associated Press

porary, but that's not the reason why we're showing 'The Kiss.' Just like when Kevin first told Jughead he was gay, it was in the natural course of conversation," said Goldwater. "We are creating this in the same way. It's just part of the story." □

Seth MacFarlane won't return as 2014 Oscar host

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Seth MacFarlane is too busy to host the Oscars in 2014.

The multitalented comedian says on Twitter that he "tried to make it work schedule-wise, but I need sleep."

MacFarlane said in his tweet Monday that Academy Awards producers Craig Zadan and Neil Meron are among the best in the business. Zadan and Meron produced this year's

Oscar show, which earned higher ratings among coveted younger viewers, and will be returning for the 2014 telecast.

MacFarlane earned mixed reviews for his first outing as Oscar host in February, with some finding his material sexist and anti-Semitic. The creator of "Family Guy" suggested Oscar producers tap eccentric actor Joaquin Phoenix to host the show. □



In this Saturday, Oct. 1, 2011 photo, Seth MacFarlane poses for a portrait in Los Angeles. Associated Press



Academy Award-winning actor Sean Penn waits to testify on Capitol Hill in Washington, Monday, May 20, 2013, before the House subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations hearing on Advocating for American Jacob Ostreicher's Freedom after two years in Bolivian detention.

Associated Press

Actor urges U.S. to pressure Bolivia to free citizen

WASHINGTON (AP)—Actor Sean Penn urged the U.S. government to pressure Bolivia to free an American businessman detained without charge since 2011 in a case that has drawn accusations he was the victim of corrupt local prosecutors. Penn said pressure on Bolivian President Evo Morales could help free Jacob Ostreicher.

"International pressure could very well be what the president of Bolivia needs to be able to finally expel the malignant cancer of corruption that is killing both the Bolivian justice system and the thousands of innocent people like Mr. Ostreicher," Penn told a congressional committee looking at Ostreicher's case. Ostreicher was granted house arrest in December after being jailed 18 months without being charged with any crime. He was arrested in a money laundering case in June 2011 while he was trying to salvage a rice-growing venture in which he and a Swiss partner invested \$25 million. The 54-year-old American has argued since shortly after his arrest that he has been the victim of corrupt Bolivian officials who conspired to keep him in jail so they could sell off

the 18,000 metric tons of rice they confiscated from him and extort him in exchange for promises to obtain his release. Rep. Chris Smith said Ostreicher is the victim of a network of people in government who are extorting him and who took away his company.

"It's time for Jacob to come back home to his wife, family and friends," Smith added.

He said former U.S. President Jimmy Carter told him he would bring up Ostreicher's case during a meeting with Morales in Atlanta on Monday.

Six Bolivian government officials who initially led Ostreicher's prosecution are now themselves in jail on accusations of participating in a shakedown ring that allegedly preyed on people deemed to have deep pockets.

Ostreicher's lawyer, Jimmy Montano, said Fernando Rivera, the former top legal adviser in the Interior Ministry and the highest government official jailed in the case, apologized in court last month and said he was following orders of Sacha Llorenti, who was then minister of the presidency and is currently Bolivia's ambassador to the United Nations. □

Chile miner happy to be played by Banderas in film



In this May 24, 2012 file photo, Actor Antonio Banderas arrives for the screening of *The Paperboy* at the 65th international film festival, in Cannes, southern France. Banderas will play Mario Sepulveda, who in 2010 became the public face of 33 Chilean miners trapped deep underground for 69 days and the charismatic miner known as "Super Mario".

Associated Press



In this March 24, 2011 file photo, Mario Sepulveda, a Chilean miner that was trapped underground for more than two months, smiles during a news conference in South Orange, N.J.

Associated Press

LUIS ANDRES HENAO

Associated Press

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) —

Antonio Banderas will star in a movie as one of the 33 Chilean miners trapped deep underground for more than two months in 2010, and the charismatic survivor he's playing couldn't be happier.

Mike Medavoy, producer of "The 33," announced on Sunday at the Cannes Film Festival that Banderas will play Mario Sepulveda, who known as "Super Mario" became the public face of the miners.

The film will dramatize the cave-in at a mine in Chile's Atacama desert and the globally televised rescue of the miners that mesmerized millions worldwide.

Sepulveda told the Associated Press on Monday that he's thrilled because he's a fan of the Spanish actor and that he hopes the

movie will remind people how life is the most valuable gift.

"I'm very excited and full of anxiety. All of my mates are looking forward to this big production," Sepulveda said. "Banderas is very charismatic."

I like him a lot and I think this movie is going to make him even more famous than he already is."

Even in their despair, Sepulveda said, "peace, love, solidarity and teamwork" were shared by the miners who survived entrapment longer than anyone else before.

"There are people who don't realize the value of what they have next to them. And after those 69 days we know that there's nothing as important as being alive, being healthy and enjoying the people you love while you're alive," he said. □

The miners said it felt like an earthquake when the shaft caved in above them on Aug. 5, 2010, filling the lower corridors of the copper and gold mine with suffocating dust.

Hours passed before they could even begin to see a few steps in front of them. Above them tons of rock shifted constantly, threatening to bury them forever. People on the surface didn't know for more than two weeks that the men had survived the collapse. The 33 men had stretched a meager 48-hour store of emergency food for 17 days, eating tiny capsules of tuna and sips of expired milk while a narrow shaft finally reached their haven and the world learned they were alive.

The small emergency shaft allowed food and water to be lowered to the miners while rescuers drilled a bigger escape hole. Finally, in the early hours of Oct. 13, the miners were hauled up one-by-one in a cage through 2,000 feet of rock. Back on the surface they were received as heroes. They got paid trips to the Greek Islands, visited the Real Madrid stadium in Spain and paraded at Magic Kingdom in Disney World.

But the fantasy began to crumble on their return home.

Many ran out of money and had to scratch out a living in the dusty working-class neighborhoods and shantytowns of the desert city of Copiapo. Some began suffering from health and psychological problems. Others took to alcohol and drugs. Most are still kept up at night by memories of their ordeal.

"I'm thankful for things in life," said Sepulveda, an electrician who earns a living giving motivational speeches. "Some are good, others bad, but God gave us another chance ... The door that was opened for us is huge." □

Hard Of Hearings



GAIL COLLINS

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Before Congress is finished with the Internal Revenue Service, there's a serious danger some of us are going to wind up feeling sorry for the auditors.

And, honestly, that is not the way we were planning on spending the spring. Especially since it appears that there are people making decisions at the IRS who have the intelligence of a wet Frisbee. But, so far, the congressional hearings of outrage have been even less sympathetic. Perhaps you didn't have time to spend much of your Friday watching the House Ways and Means Committee grill Steven Miller, the newly axed IRS head, about the agency's targeting of groups with names like "Tea Party" for unwelcome in-depth attention.

Let me summarize:

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DAVE CAMP: Thank you all for coming here today. Our topic is abuses in the Internal Revenue Service, an entity that I believe is about the size of China, with long, spiky tentacles that reach out and squash all the hopes and dreams of the American people. My first question, Mr. Miller, is whether your agency is so enormous and evil that it will one day destroy the nation as we know it, or whether it already has, and this committee is actually just sitting on the scattered shards and rubble of what once was a great republic.

STEVEN MILLER: Thank you for inviting me here today. I would like to begin by apologizing for mistakes that have been made. Now I am prepared to begin answering your questions, and then gradually fade into sullen exhaustion.

SANDER LEVIN, RANKING DEMOCRAT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for organizing this bipartisan outpouring of rage. I would like to begin by welcoming Inspector General J. Russell George, and asking him to repeat his conclusion that none of the bad things we're discussing were the result of partisan pressure. Possibly he could say that twice. Then I would like to ask him to confirm that he was appointed by George W. Bush. And then to point out that the guy who was in charge of the IRS when all this happened was also appointed by George W. Bush.

REP. DEVIN NUNES, R-CALIF.: Mr. Miller, how would you like it if we were to subpoena your emails

and phone calls and records of anyone you've met with over the last four years? Also, have you ever had any contact with the Obama re-election campaign?

MILLER: I would just like to say in my defense that the IRS provided horrible customer service.

REP. DAVE REICHERT, R-FLA.: What the IRS did was inexcusable. Also, I want to register my strong protests about the way Mr. Miller keeps interrupting me while I am demanding that he answer my questions.

And then everybody went home for the weekend.

What are we going to do about the IRS? Some of its workers made wildly inappropriate judgments and some of its top brass appears to have the spunk of a pillow. Congress is demanding that heads roll, but the inspector general says that, so far, there's no evidence of political pressure, just ineptitude. There is literally only one person in the entire operation who's not covered by civil service, so I wouldn't expect a purge. Miller, in his testimony, said that, so far, one employee has been relocated in punishment for his or her role in the case. The nation cries out for blood and they get a transfer.

But here's where the sympathy comes in. The IRS employees were stuck with a pile of 70,000 applications for the tax-exempt status that's awarded to organizations engaged in social welfare issues. Recently, political groups have been gaming the system, announcing they're just do-gooders with a minor political sideline in order to qualify. When they succeed, they get to keep their donors secret. The rules for who qualifies are murky, and, according to Miller, only about 150 to 200 people were making the decisions about who got further scrutiny. Also, they were working at the Determinations Unit of the Rulings and Agreements Office of the Exempt Organizations Division of the IRS. Spending their lives trying to clarify the 501(c)(4) status. You try that for a while and see how you like it.

If Congress wanted to help, the members could simplify the law so IRS minions aren't trying to figure out which groups spend only 49 percent of their resources on politics as opposed to 51 percent.

Or, they could give the IRS more money to do the job it's stuck with now. The budget has been cut almost \$1 billion over the last few years, while its duties have expanded. Next Friday, IRS workers will enjoy the first of a series of unpaid furloughs thanks to that sequester.

Or Congress could just keep holding committee hearings in hopes that investigators will finally discover that the IRS offices in Cincinnati are actually controlled by a pack of left-wing operatives who are not only Obamaphiles but also vampires. Vampires who had no respect for the laws regarding 501(c)(4) status. □



Energy Exports Are Good!



JOE NOCERA

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What first caught my eye was the op-ed article in The Wall Street Journal. Published in late February, it was written by Andrew N. Liveris, the chairman and chief executive of the Dow Chemical Co. Liveris, an Australian, has become quite the Washington player in recent years. Among other things, he heads President Barack Obama's efforts to revive manufacturing.

The op-ed was about one of my favorite subjects: the abundance of natural gas reserves discovered in the United States since the "fracking" revolution began. This newly found gas, Liveris wrote, offered "a historic opportunity to strengthen the economy, increase national competitiveness and create jobs." I couldn't have said it better myself.

Within a few paragraphs, however, the Liveris article took on a Pravda-like quality: a political insider sending a coded message to other insiders. He wrote, for instance, that the new jobs the natural gas boom was expected to create would depend on an "affordable" and "plentiful" supply. Given that that's exactly what we currently have, what was the real subtext?

Then it became clear: Liveris' plan for ensuring cheap domestic gas was — are you ready for this? — limiting exports. An export

market driven by, you know, supply and demand was described as "unchecked." What was left unsaid was that if natural gas could not be exported, the resulting oversupply would depress prices — and boost Dow's profits. Finally, Liveris acknowledged that Dow owned 15 percent of a proposed facility in Texas, which was causing "advocates of unchecked exports" to "attack" the company for being in a position to profit from exports while publicly opposing them. But, he insisted, Dow would not make a profit. Hmmm.

I bring all this up because on Friday, the Department of Energy, after a two-year hiatus, granted a permit to a facility called Freeport LNG, which will allow it to export liquefied natural gas to countries with which we do not have free-trade agreements. Originally built to import natural gas, the plant will cost as much as \$11 billion to retrofit and take years to complete. It will export only a tiny fraction of the natural gas that is consumed by Americans.

And wouldn't you know it? This is the facility in which a Dow Chemical limited partnership holds a 15 percent stake.

Exporting natural gas has enormous benefits for the United States. Exports create jobs that are every bit as good as manufacturing jobs. They help our trade deficit. They tie us closer to important allies like Japan, which desperately need the gas. According to Michael Levi, the author of an authoritative new book, "The Power Surge: Energy, Opportunity, and the Battle for America's Future," the prospect that America could export natural gas has even helped our European allies gain leverage with its primary supplier of fossil fuels, Russia.

"Most studies suggest that the main impact of exports will be to increase U.S. production rather than take away other uses," Levi says. Thus, it will not likely have a major effect on the price of gas.

Levi told me that one legitimate fear is that the additional drilling could increase the potential environmental risks posed by fracking. But the answer is to ensure that wells are drilled in an environmentally safe manner. That is true whether we export gas or not.

And what does Dow Chemical say now that "its" facility has been approved? I spent much of Friday afternoon peppering the company with questions, most of them revolving around Dow's seeming hypocrisy in opposing "unfettered" exports while owning a big chunk of a facility that would someday be shipping natural gas to Japan.

Finally, more or less in exasperation, a Dow spokesman put Liveris on the phone. The Dow chairman pointed out that when the company originally invested in Freeport LNG, the facility was meant to import gas rather than export it. He said the company won't make money because its stake will be so diluted once capital is raised for the retrofitting. He insisted that he is a believer in market forces, but that the natural gas market is so different from other commodities that it must be treated differently.

He also said, though, that the company was not opposed to natural gas exports — just so long as it was limited.

Earlier, a Dow spokesman had sent out a news release claiming that the permit approval by the Department of Energy was actually a victory for Dow's position. To put it in words that the press representative would never use, so long as the Department of Energy permitting process is so absurdly slow — thus creating a government bottleneck that restrains "unfettered" exports — Dow and Liveris have gotten exactly what they've been seeking: limited exports and plenty of cheap domestic gas to help fuel their profits.

There is a technical term for this. It's called "having your cake and eating it, too." □

The newfound fascination with tiny dwellings

ELIZABETH A. HARRIS

© 2013 New York Times

NEW YORK – In Luke Clark Tyler's last New York City apartment, his shoes had some unusual companions in the closet. The shoes sat, in neat pairs, on a rack, directly below his dishes and right next to the microwave. A few inches away, a hip-high refrigerator lived beneath his desk. And the apartment was so narrow that Tyler could sit on a sofa pushed against one wall with his feet propped up on the opposite wall. This was because Tyler's entire home was only 78 square feet. And while his "Midtown mansion," as he called it, was a far cry from the lavish town homes and shimmering penthouses that have spawned a thousand lustful television shows, a video tour posted on YouTube of Tyler's little room has been viewed nearly 1.7 million times over the past year and a half. A similar video, about a 90-square-foot apartment on the Upper West Side, has been viewed even more times.

"My sister emailed me one morning and said, 'you've got 2 million hits,' and by that night we had 3 million," said Felice Cohen, the writer and professional organizer who lived there. Cohen's video has now been watched on YouTube nearly 5.2 million times.

"Maybe we're an inspiration for them," Cohen said of those many viewers. "Or maybe they think we're nuts."

Few are keen to crumple themselves and their belongings into an itty-bitty room and call it home, yet the eagerness to explore these spaces seems to spread like a determined little wildfire. Videos go viral; news media coverage quickly spans oceans; attendance is even up at a small Manhattan museum currently offering an exhibit on micro-apartments. Perhaps this voracious interest is mere curiosity about how living so small can be comfortably done. Maybe it is just voyeurism. More of

ten, it seems, it is something else: schadenfreude, the pleasure one takes in the misfortune of others. Because, finally, somebody has an apartment smaller than yours.

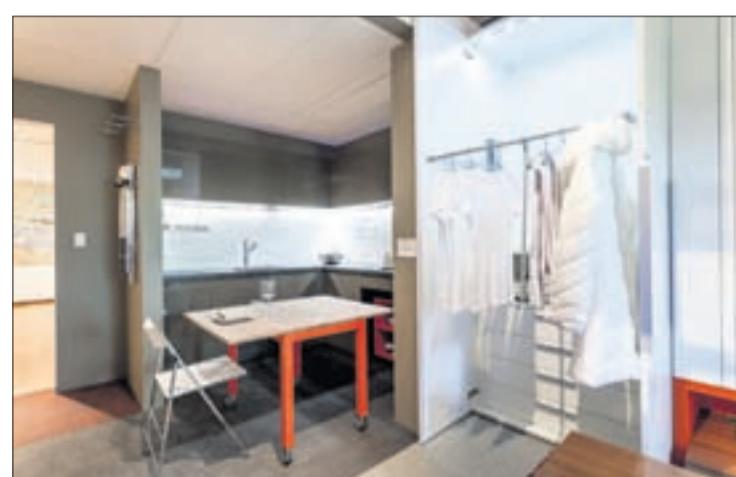
"Nice little jail cell there," one YouTube commenter wrote beneath Cohen's video.

"OMG," wrote another. "And I was crying about my 600-square-foot place."

Another said simply, "hahahaha."

Yes, most frequently, said Tyler – who was branded "el cheapo!" by one YouTube viewer – commenters bring the discussion back to their own arrangements. "I have three bedrooms and a stable full of horses, or a palace in wherever it is I live, and it costs half as much," Tyler offered as an example.

Both Tyler's and Cohen's apartments were shot by a woman named Kirsten Dirksen, a co-founder of a sustainable living website called faircompanies.com, for a series of videos on tiny homes. They inspired thousands of comments, dozens of articles and interviews, and even segments on "Good Morning America" and CNN.



A kitchen setup at the "Making Room" exhibit at the Museum of the City of New York on micro-apartments, in New York, May 17, 2013. (Robert Wright/The New York Times)

Cohen's video also got her evicted from her tiny apartment, which happened to be an illegal sublet.

Cohen sent the video to the woman she was subletting from, Lara J. Kisielewska, who had held the lease on the apartment for more than 10 years. Kisielewska was surprised.

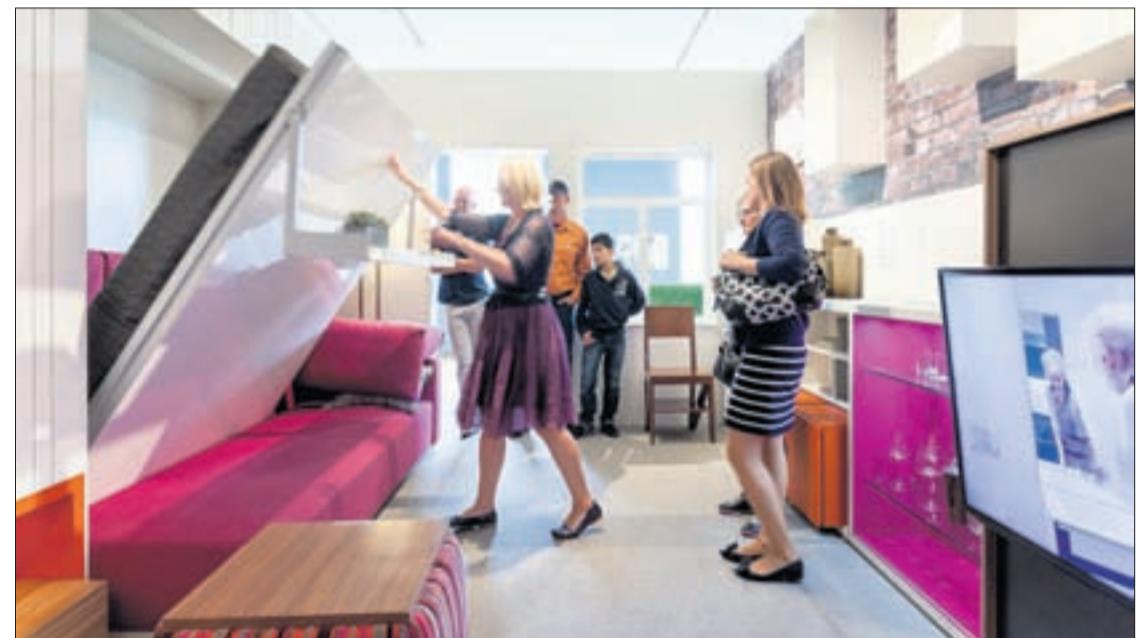
"Hello! You're illegally subletting!" she recalled think-

ing. "What are you doing?" Eventually, her landlord saw the video, too. Both Cohen and Kisielewska, who owns a graphic design firm, have happily moved on to larger apartments nearby. Tyler has also left his teensy home – which was in a single room occupancy building – and decamped to the West

the same period last year. In addition to small models, educational videos and some information on the city's own foray into tiny dwellings – at the end of the year, the city hopes to break ground on 55 micro-apartments, measuring from 250 to 370 square feet, on East 27th Street – the exhibit includes a

Craigslist.

"I think there's a lot to be said for utilizing a small space, but I literally saw somebody advertising a 5-foot by 7-foot closet," said Ryan Nethery, 25, a cinematographer and Kentucky native who started the blog during his own apartment search. "The post read, 'my bedroom



Lisa Blecker shows the bed of a full-scale 325-square-foot model apartment at the "Making Room" exhibit at the Museum of the City of New York on micro-apartments, in New York, May 17, 2013. (Robert Wright/The New York Times)

Coast.

"I have my own bathroom," Tyler said of his current living arrangement. "Which is really nice, I've got to say."

full-scale 325-square-foot model apartment.

It has a Murphy bed, an L-shaped kitchen, perhaps the world's smallest dishwasher, and a number of labels that say, "Do Not Touch." The exhibit also includes a bright pink sofa, on which a man in a faded gray baseball cap sat himself down last week, and quickly fell asleep.

"Either we were really successful in creating a domestic environment, or we've created a really boring exhibition," said Donald Albrecht, the museum's curator of architecture and design.

Living in a small space can have many economic and environmental advantages, and many of those who explore those spaces, whether in person or online, enthuse about what they offer and are eager to learn more.

Not everybody. For example, the many viewers of a blog called "The Worst Room," which collects terrible, cramped, and generally windowless apartment advertisements placed on

has two closets and I don't need one of them. Looking to rent it out."

That ad, accompanied by a small picture that included a visible clothing rod, boasted a Union Square location and asked \$1,000 per month. Other posts include a \$600 crawl space in South Williamsburg and a gray, L-shaped sofa, which appeared to be in the center of somebody's living room, for \$700 per month. In the less than three weeks since Nethery began his blog, he has been written about on Yahoo.com, and in The Huffington Post, New York Magazine and even an Australian news website. But all the attention has not been the only surprise resulting from the blog, Nethery said. Viewers have been emailing him to request links to some apartment ads because, they say, they think they might like to live there.

"The breakfast nook was pretty popular," Nethery said. "It was a mattress in the kitchen, so it was like: refrigerator, sink, oven, mattress." □